



Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Sanctuary Superintendent's Report



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A report for the Sanctuary Advisory Council

July 2012

ABOUT THIS REPORT

The Sanctuary Superintendent's Report highlights recent accomplishments and activities from program areas at the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS or sanctuary). This report is provided to the Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) in March, July, and November, and is also available online at channelislands.noaa.gov.

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Celebrates Cap Rouge Day (Red Hat Day) in Honor of Cousteau

On Saturday, June 9, 2012, on World Oceans Day, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary helped spread the message far and wide about Cap Rouge Day. The wearing of a red cap is used as a symbol of recognition between, and for, ocean lovers everywhere. The red cap is to remind us of Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau, whose birthday anniversary is on June 11. Channel Islands Naturalist Corps Volunteers wore red caps on World Oceans Day and at a presentation with an audience of over 70 campers at Carpinteria State Beach. Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers are specially trained in partnership with the park to educate the public about sanctuary and park resources on whale watch tours, island hikes, and at community outreach events. They also conduct citizen monitoring projects including the collection of marine mammal sightings in the sanctuary. The Sanctuary Advisory Council also took the time to recognize Red Cap Day at their May 18th public meeting.

ABOUT THE SANCTUARY

Designated in 1980, the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS or sanctuary) consists of an area off the coast of California of approximately 1,470 square miles adjacent to the following islands and offshore rocks: San Miguel Island, Santa Rosa Island, Santa Cruz Island, Anacapa Island, Santa Barbara Island, Richardson Rock, and Castle Rock, extending seaward to a distance of approximately six nautical miles. The islands vary in distance from 12 to 40 nautical miles offshore from Santa Barbara and Ventura counties in southern California. A fertile combination of warm and cool currents in this area results in a great variety of plants and animals including kelp forests, fish, invertebrates, marine mammals and sea birds. The sanctuary also contains a wealth of maritime heritage resources including Chumash Native American artifacts and over 100 historic shipwrecks. Human uses in the area include commercial and recreational fishing, marine wildlife viewing, boating, diving, kayaking, maritime shipping, nearby offshore oil and gas development, research and monitoring, and numerous educational activities. Sanctuary staff coordinate research, monitoring, education, outreach, emergency response, and community involvement programs, as well as the enforcement of regulations, to promote long term resource protection and compatible human use within the CINMS.

SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Support for NOAA's Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program Expressed by Sanctuary Advisory Council

On May 18, 2012 the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council voted to send a letter to NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco expressing their strong support for NOAA's California Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) program. As the council's approved letter notes, B-WET funding provides a unique opportunity for sanctuary staff to work with local NGOs and businesses to implement the best ideas originating from local K-12 educators. B-WET grants to local schools and organizations have helped thousands of students in Santa Barbara and Ventura county school districts receive excellent watershed education experiences. The council's letter also points out that during the 2010-2011 school year, B-WET funds in the sanctuary community:

- Fostered a sense of environmental stewardship in 2,689 students of elementary, junior high and high school grade levels;
- Helped shape over 120 teachers of environmental and science classes to more effectively serve students and teach watershed science;
- Directly decreased trash production in 11 classrooms and removed over 100 pounds of debris from our watershed during student led clean-ups;
- Planted over 300 native plants in restoration efforts; and
- Provided over 2000 students the opportunity to visit and explore a watershed first hand, and afforded many students multiple opportunities for field explorations of local beaches, creeks, and the Channel Islands.

The council's letter also highlights how the California B-WET program has been vital to helping the Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans (MERITO) program grow and succeed.

Sanctuary Advisory Council supports idea of using California Cap-And-Trade Auction Proceeds to Incentivize Slowing Ships, Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and Increasing Whale Protections

At a public meeting on May 18, 2012, the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council learned about an opportunity to suggest ideas to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) on how cap-and-trade auction proceeds might be invested to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Brian Shafritz with the Santa Barbara Air Pollution Control District addressed the advisory council and spoke about a conceptual idea that his agency is planning to suggest to CARB, and that sanctuary staff were also interested in: the investment of auction proceeds to create an incentive-based program for slowing ships. Reduced ship speeds would not only lower greenhouse gas emissions of the coast of California, but could enhance protections to whales. The advisory council expressed interest and support for the idea given their history of working on the issue of whale ship strikes, and their past recommendations to the sanctuary that incentive-based approaches be investigated. By a vote of 17 to 1, the council adopted a motion asking that their Executive Committee draft a letter asking CARB to consider allocating some of the auction proceeds to an incentive program designed to reduce the speed of ships, and further asking that the council's support be voiced at a CARB public meeting next week in Sacramento, California. Details about the CARB cap and trade auction program and public consultation process are online at

http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/notice_investment_plan_auction_proceeds.pdf.

New and Returning Members Welcomed to Sanctuary Advisory Council

Staff at the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary are excited to begin working with eleven dedicated, civic-minded community members who were appointed in June 2012 to the Sanctuary Advisory Council:

- Capt. David Bacon, Recreational Fishing Member; Owner, Wave Walker Charters and Hook, Line & Sinker tackle shop.

- Merit McCrea, Recreational Fishing Alternate; Biologist, UCSB Marine Science Institute.
- Maria Petueli, Education Member; Marine Educator, Teach at the Beach Educational Services.
- Amanda Allen, Education Alternate; Director, Ty Warner Sea Center.
- Andrea Mills, Tourism Member; Island Packers Company.
- Capt. Mat Curto, Tourism Alternate; Condor Cruises.
- Victor Cox, Public-At-Large Alternate; Independent journalist and science writer.
- Richard Block, Public-At-Large Alternate; CEO, Santa Barbara Zoo.
- Luhui Isha Ward, Chumash Community Member; Cultural Resources and Education Director, Executive Director, Wishtoyo Foundation/Ventura Coastkeeper.
- Mati Waiya, Chumash Community Alternate; Wishtoyo Foundation.
- Michael Cohen, Business Alternate; Owner, Santa Barbara Adventure Company.

The new members will bring a diversity of sanctuary experience and community leadership skills to help the advisory council develop sound management advice. Returning members will provide expertise and important continuity for the group. The appointed council members will serve two-year terms.

EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND VOLUNTEERS

“Sanctuaries Classic” Summer Fishing and Photography Tournament to Kick Off on World Ocean Day at Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

The Sanctuaries Classic, sponsored and coordinated by the Sportfishing Conservancy, is a summer-long fishing and photo contest highlighting four national marine sanctuaries (Channel Islands, Grays Reef, Florida Keys, and Monterey Bay). Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary superintendent Chris Mobley, along with staff members Sean Hastings and Shauna Bingham, will join Sportfishing Conservancy representatives and others on Saturday June 9, World Ocean Day, at Santa Barbara Harbor to support the kick-off of this summer long tournament. By providing conservation and ethics guidelines to casual anglers, the Classic aims to support conservation and fishing, foster environmental stewardship through a family-friendly activity, and reach a broad spectrum of recreational fishing enthusiasts. Unlike a typical fishing tournament, the Sanctuaries Classic isn't about catching the most or the largest fish – it's about experiencing the joy of kids fishing in a national marine sanctuary and capturing the essence of that in a photo. The Classic runs all summer from June 9 through September 3, 2012. If you or someone you know would like to consider registering, visit sanctuaryclassic.org. More stories to come on the tournament in the weeks ahead as weekly prizes are given out for photos that receive the most “likes” online.

600 MERITO Academy Students Finalize Watershed and Coastal Field Experiences and Take Trips to Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and Park

The last of thirty Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans (MERITO) Academy student watershed and coastal monitoring field experiences were completed on May 16, 2012. The trips were coordinated, instructed and co-sponsored by the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary MERITO Academy Program, serving 600 STEM underrepresented 4th-8th grade students from public Title 1 schools participating during the 2011-2012 school year. May 16th also marked the beginning of the MERITO Academy field season, including trips to the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) and Channel Islands National Park for an initial group of 60 students. Students from Adelante and Franklin Elementary schools in Santa Barbara explored Santa Cruz Island. Watershed, wetland and coastal monitoring experiences took place at various sites along the Santa Barbara Channel coast.

The trips involved the coordination of nine Federal, State, municipal and non-governmental agencies, including the CINMS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area,

California State Parks, City of Oxnard, City of Santa Barbara, Coal Oil Point Reserve, California State University Channel Islands, and The Nature Conservancy. All of these partners contributed professional staff time to instruct and inspire students on stewardship and science-based activities, and in some cases also provided additional resources such as native plants, field identification guides and other materials. Each of the 30 coastal field experiences were coordinated and instructed by MERITO Academy staff with support from Channel Islands Naturalist Volunteers Cliff Rodriguez and Judy Willens, and CINMS staff. All of the participating students are enrolled in Title 1 or Head Start schools in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties.

These field experiences are part of the MERITO Academy school year programming, which includes educator training, securing sponsorships for field trip transportation, and curriculum development. Participating schools include: Adelante Charter and Franklin in Santa Barbara; Montalvo Elementary in Ventura; Sunkist, Ocean View, Mar Vista, Tierra Vista and Richard Bard in Port Hueneme; and Ramona, McKinna, Rio del Valle, Rio Vista, and Laguna Vista in Oxnard. Sponsors of the program include CINMS, Amgen Foundation, US Fish and Wildlife Service, California Coastal Commission, Channel Islands Harbor Foundation and two private donors.

NOAA Drifter Buoy Re-deployed at Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

A NOAA drifter buoy was released south of Santa Rosa Island on May 1, 2012, within the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. However, the buoy took an unexpected course and was retrieved on May 15th by sanctuary crew aboard the *R/V Shearwater*, just a mile from coming ashore near Santa Barbara Harbor. On June 18, 2012, during a seabird habitat restoration project with Channel Islands National Park, the buoy was re-deployed by *R/V Shearwater* crew and two Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers three miles south of San Miguel Island. The re-deployment was a success and the buoy is currently drifting westward, traveling further offshore. The initial release of the drifter buoy was part of a special Earth Day event. Sanctuary staff teamed up with local partners to help students participate in NOAA's "Adopt A Drifter" Program. Two local schools from Oak Park High School and a fourth grade class from Montalvo Elementary School are partnering with The International Preparatory School in Santiago, Chile to co-adopt and track the buoy over the next year. The buoy's first release was made by two eleventh grade students from Oak Park High School. Similar drifter buoy release events also occurred during the months of April and May in Boston, Miami, Mobile, Seattle, and Maui. Each drifter is part of a global ocean array that students can follow online, along with the specific drifter they adopted. For more information and to track this buoy online, visit NOAA's Adopt-A-Drifter Program web site at <http://www.adp.noaa.gov/earthday/california.html>.

Channel Islands Naturalist Corps Volunteers Provide Hands-on Activities at School Science Nights

On May 17, 2012, Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers wrapped up a school-year tour of regional science nights at Santa and Ventura County schools. Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers are specially trained in partnership with the Channel Islands National Park to educate the public about sanctuary and park resources on whale watch tours, island hikes, and at community outreach events. They also conduct citizen monitoring projects including the collection of marine mammal sightings in the sanctuary. During the 2011-12 school year Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers provided hands-on activities about the Channel Islands at 12 school science nights, reaching over 4,000 students and families.

Channel Islands Naturalist Corps Volunteers Kick-off California State Beaches Campfire Talks Memorial Weekend

On May 26, 2012, Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers kicked-off a series of campfire outreach talks for California State Park visitors. The presentations will occur monthly through the summer season and have expanded in 2012 to include additional parks due to their popularity and focus on local marine life. Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers are specially trained in partnership with the Channel Islands National Park to educate the public about sanctuary and park resources on whale watch tours, island hikes, and at

community outreach events. They also conduct citizen monitoring projects including the collection of marine mammal sightings in the sanctuary. The state beach presentations include an orientation to the sanctuary and park and an overview of wildlife viewing opportunities adjacent to local State Parks such as whale watching, hiking, and kayaking. An average of 100 visitors will attend these monthly presentations with many children and families.

New Chumash Tomol Launched and Named in Santa Barbara, California

On Sunday May 24, 2012, the Barbereno Chumash Council of Santa Barbara, California proudly launched and introduced the newest traditional tomol (canoe), named *Xax' 'Aloik'oy*, to the extended Chumash community and supporters. The tomol's name means "Great Dolphin," which is said to be a reference to the orca. More than fifty people turned out for a launching ceremony at Santa Barbara Harbor, including Mike Murray from the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. Paddlers then took *Xax' 'Aloik'oy* a short distance to nearby Ledbetter Beach, where she was landed to the welcoming support of the broader Chumash community, and a formal naming ceremony was conducted. Other tomols present and paddled at the event were the Chumash Maritime Association's *'Elye'wun* (swordfish), which the sanctuary helped build in 1997, and the more recently completed *Isha'kowoch* (glistening salmon), built by Matt Ward. A movement to bring back the canoe culture of the Chumash people continues to slowly gain momentum. There are now about four tomols that are actively paddled by the Chumash community, with plans for more to be built.

World Ocean Day Celebrated by 400 Channel Islands MERITO Academy Students

On June 8, 2012 two hundred 4th - 6th grade students participating in the 2011-2012 Channel Islands Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans (MERITO) Academy program provided presentations and/or poster projects about their research to their school peers and family members. This was done in celebration of World Ocean Day and as a conclusion to the MERITO Academy program's school-year. Each student's presentation was focused on their own research of a resource or habitat of the Channel Islands (such as marine mammals, sharks or kelp forest), or an issue affecting the Channel Islands and/or world's ocean (such as climate change, pollution or introduced species). All 600 students who participated in the 2011-2012 MERITO Academy program had the choice to either develop an essay or a project to present. Surprisingly, over two thirds (~400 students) opted for a more elaborate and work-intensive project presentation. The audience included the students' peers, families, Channel Islands Naturalist Corps Volunteers and MERITO Academy staff. 150 4th-6th-grade students presented between June 1-6, 2012 in Santa Barbara, Oxnard and Port Hueneme, and another 50 students will present on June 15. The remaining students are writing and will deliver very persuasive essays, including letters to President Barack Obama, about marine environmental issues they strongly believe need to be addressed.

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Makes a Splash at World Oceans Day

On Saturday, June 9, 2012, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary participated in the Ty Warner Sea Center World Oceans Day Festival in Santa Barbara, California. The event provided engaging hands-on science activities to connect community members to ocean issues and conservation. Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers were on hand to educate visitors about the resources of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and Channel Islands National Park. Naturalist Corps volunteers are specially trained in partnership with the park to educate the public about sanctuary and park resources on whale watch tours, island hikes, and at community outreach events. They also conduct citizen monitoring projects including the collection of marine mammal sightings in the sanctuary.

New Ocean Acidification Public Service Announcement Launched on World Ocean Day

On June 9, 2012 the Environmental Defense Center (EDC), a non-profit organization based out of Santa Barbara, California debuted a new 30-second animated video Public Service Announcement (PSA) focused on the issue of ocean acidification. The PSA was announced at a special World Ocean Day event held at the

Ty Warner Sea Center in Santa Barbara, at which Congresswoman Lois Capps spoke generally about the importance of the ocean, followed by Kristi Birney from EDC announcing the PSA, and Mike Murray from the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. Murray offered support for the PSA and encouraged the audience to learn more about the issue and find out what they can do to help protect the ocean at [acidocen.org](http://www.kclu.org). A reporter from the NPR affiliate radio station KCLU interviewed the speakers (story at <http://www.kclu.org/2012/06/11/9744/>). EDC will be working with a variety of partners, including the sanctuary, the thirteen national marine sanctuary advisory councils, the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation (who provided grant funding for the PSA), the Ty Warner Sea Center, and other aquariums to distribute and show the PSA both locally and nationally. To watch the PSA, learn more about ocean acidification science, find classroom lesson plans and hands-on activities, watch educational workshops, and make a personal ocean protection pledge, visit <http://www.cisanctuary.org/acidocean/>.

Hueneme High School Seniors Explore Potential NOAA Career Opportunities During Three Week Summer Program

On June 22, 2012, Julie Bursek, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Team Leader for Education and Outreach, discussed potential NOAA career opportunities with thirty High School incoming seniors from Hueneme High School's Engineering Design Science Career Pathway Program at the Oxnard College Marine Education Center. In its fourth year, the program consists of science, social science engineering, mathematics and English classes that students follow during their four years in high school. The program is funded by a \$5 million grant from Oxnard College's science, technology, engineering and mathematics program, a grant from Ventura County's P-16 program, and a council of business leaders, educators and community leaders. During the three week Bridge Program, participating students explored Santa Cruz Island and the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary to focus on island plants, marine life and some physical oceanography. They also had an opportunity to tour the University of California Santa Barbara and Ty Warner Sea Center to learn more about intertidal habitats. Bursek explained why the Channel Islands are so special and discussed different career opportunities within NOAA to protect these special places.

Bursek's lecture and the Bridge Program were featured this week in the Ventura County Star (see <http://www.vcstar.com/news/2012/jun/25/hueneme-high-school-students-receive-unique/?ref=nf>).

RESEARCH, MONITORING AND VESSEL OPERATIONS

Aerial Survey of Vessel Use Patterns

CINMS flight staff, Ben Waltenberger, Danielle Lipski, and Natalie Senyk, conducted a Sanctuary Aerial Monitoring and Spatial Analysis Program (SAMSAP) survey to collect information on visitor and vessel use patterns around the four northern Channel Islands of San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, and Anacapa. The day was marked by foggy conditions and calm seas. Flight staff observed a significant number of commercial passenger fishing vessels, mostly concentrated around Santa Cruz Island. In addition, kayakers took advantage of sea conditions in the eastern portion of the sanctuary. Commercial fishing vessels, particularly vessels targeting the urchin fishery, were observed around Santa Rosa and San Miguel Islands. SAMSAP is an aerial monitoring program that has been collecting human use pattern and marine mammal data since 1997, providing staff with important information on the distribution of consumptive and non-consumptive activities in the sanctuary.

Subsurface Sediment Trap Mooring Retrieval and Deployment

On June 21, scientists and crew aboard the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary's R/V *Shearwater* successfully recovered and redeployed a large subsurface sediment trap mooring in the Santa Barbara Basin. The subsurface mooring contains two Mark VII automated sediment traps located at about 150 m and 500 m depth that provide continuous collection of sinking particles. The mooring is recovered, serviced and

redeployed twice per year and requires complicated and tightly choreographed deck operations and vessel maneuvering. The mooring is part of a multi-year collaborative project with Dr. Claudia Benitez-Nelson and Eric Tappa (University of South Carolina's Marine Science Program & Department of Earth & Ocean Sciences) and Dr. David Siegel (University of California Santa Barbara's Plumes and Blooms Program). The project focuses on a study of the production and export of domoic acid, a toxin produced by harmful algal blooms, from surface waters to depth in the Santa Barbara Basin. The mooring will enable suspended and sinking *Pseudo-nitzschia* cells as well as domoic acid concentrations to be directly compared with samples collected during monthly CTD profiles and surface sampling collected as part of the Plumes and Blooms Program. Also, as part of ONMS Safety Week, man overboard, fire, and abandon ship drills were conducted aboard *R/V Shearwater*, including demonstrations on launching life rafts, emergency equipment (EPIRB, SART), and use of pyrotechnics.

RESOURCE PROTECTION

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and Park Representing Federal Agencies on State of California's Lobster Advisory Committee

Sean Hastings, Resource Protection Coordinator, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) and David Kushner, Marine Biologist with the Channel Islands National Park, have been appointed to the State of California's Lobster Advisory Committee for the development of a spiny lobster Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The Lobster Advisory Committee is a collaborative body with the purpose of providing the California Department of Fish and Game with advice, feedback, and recommendations regarding the issues and actions that need to be considered during the development of an FMP for the spiny lobster. The Committee represents recreational and commercial lobster fishermen, marine scientists, non-consumptive recreationists, environmental groups, and federal agencies.

Sanctuary Overflight Regulations posted on Updated FAA Charts

On June 28, 2012 Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary announced revised aeronautical charts released by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) which include information on overflight regulations for NOAA's Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary off the Southern California coast. The charts depict existing overflight zones that have been in place for many years and are designed to protect marine mammals and seabirds from disturbance by aircraft. NOAA has worked with the FAA to ensure clear notation of sanctuary regulations on aeronautical charts, which provides appropriate notice to pilots and ensures the protection of resources under NOAA's stewardship. At Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, flights below 1,000 feet are restricted over the waters within one nautical mile of any island, except to engage in kelp bed surveys or to transport persons or supplies to or from an island (note: there are no public airstrips at the islands). The sanctuary continues to work with pilot community to help pilots understand these regulations and the importance of protecting sanctuary wildlife and habitats. More information on the FAA charts and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary overflight regulations may be found at <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/flight>. The press release was sent to local media of the Southern California Region, as well as to regional airports in Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles.

Sanctuary Staff Support United States Coast Guard West Coast Fisheries Enforcement Trainings

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary's (sanctuary) resource protection coordinator, Sean Hastings, and California Sea Grant fellow, Sara Hutto, participated as guest speakers at a United States Coast Guard training session held at Station Channel Islands in Oxnard on Wednesday, June 27, 2012. Sara Hutto also spoke at a similar training session held the previous week at Sector LA-Long Long on Wednesday, June 20, 2012. Hastings and Hutto briefed the approximately fifty US Coast Guard boarding officers on sanctuary regulations, enforcement issues, and an overview of Sanctuary boundaries, operations, user groups, and

cooperating agencies. The presentation emphasized the importance of working cooperatively with the Coast Guard, as well as the National Park Service and the California Department of Fish and Game, to ensure enforcement goals are reached.

New Whale Ship Strike Website Launched for West Coast National Marine Sanctuaries

A new resource protection website is available on the National Marine Sanctuaries site detailing the West Coast Region's efforts to manage, monitor and research ship strikes on large endangered whales. This website was developed by Sea Grant Fellow Sara Hutto, in collaboration with staff from the Channel Islands, Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries, as well as West Coast Region staff.

Ship strikes of endangered whales is a priority issue for the West Coast Region, and this new resource will provide additional outreach and education to mariners and the general public. Additional sanctuary regions are expected to create content to be added to this site in the near future. ONMS Ship Strike Website url: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/protect/shipstrike/welcome.html>.

International Maritime Organization's Safety of Navigation Subcommittee Approves Shipping Lane Adjustments to Protect Endangered Whales Near Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

Only July 6, 2012 at a meeting in London, the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Safety of Navigation Sub-Committee approved proposals by the United States requesting adjustments to vessel traffic separation schemes (TSSs) in the Santa Barbara Channel, near the port of Los Angeles-Long Beach, and at the entry to San Francisco Bay. The proposed changes for the Santa Barbara Channel call for a narrowing of the overall width of the existing TSS to help reduce the likelihood of blue whale ship strikes. The southbound lane would be shifted one nautical mile further away from an area within the sanctuary of known high seasonal use by feeding blue whales. Changes proposed for the approaches to San Francisco Bay are expected to have similar benefits to whales and improve maritime safety. The Safety of Navigation Sub-Committee will next recommend that the IMO's Maritime Safety Committee adopt the amendments when they meet at the end of November, 2012. If adopted, the changes will take effect either six months thereafter or, if requested by the United States, at a later date. The U.S. Coast Guard expects to initiate a domestic rulemaking process within the next few months. Closely assisting the Coast Guard with development of the U.S. proposal has been NOAA staff from the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and the Protected Resources Division at NMFS' Southwest Regional Office, in coordination with NOAA IMO representatives Stephanie Altman and Trisha Bergmann, who attending the meeting in London.

Sanctuary Staff

Santa Barbara Offices

Christopher Mobley *Superintendent*
Todd Jacobs *Deputy Superintendent for Administration and Operations*
Michael Murray *Deputy Superintendent for Programs*
Shauna Bingham – *Volunteer Program & Outreach Coordinator*
Amy Cale-Huebner – *Web and Kiosk Developer*
Ricky Echanique – *Intern*
Laura Francis – *Education Coordinator*
Kiya Gornik – *Intern*
Sean Hastings – *Resource Protection Coordinator*
Sara Hutto – *California Sea Grant Fellow, 2012*
Dr. Stephen Katz – *Research Coordinator*
Brandon Keedy – *Intern*
LTJG Lyndsey Keen – *Operations Officer*
Charles Lara – *Vessel Captain*
Dani Lipski – *Research Specialist*
Amber McEldowney – *Intern*
Christine Quigley – *Intern*
Robert Schwemmer – *Regional Maritime Heritage Coordinator*
Natalie Senyk – *Physical Scientist*
Terrence Shinn – *Vessel Captain*
Ben Waltenberger – *Physical Scientist*
Rebecca Young – *Program Support Specialist*

Ventura County Field Office

Julie Bursek – *Team Leader for Education and Outreach*
Rocío Lozano de Knowlton – *MERITO Program Coordinator*

ONMS West Coast Region Staff

William Douros – *Regional Director*
Lisa Wooninck – *Policy Coordinator*
Nicole Capps – *Management Support Specialist*
Dave Lott – *Operations Coordinator*

Local ONMS Staff

Claire Fackler – *West Coast Education Liaison*
Sarah Marquis – *West Coast Media Coordinator*
Matt Pickett – *ONMS Aviation Coordinator*

Learn More About Your Sanctuary

The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary produces the Sanctuary Superintendent's Report in conjunction with every other bi-monthly Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting. To learn more about the sanctuary please visit our web site at: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov>.

To learn more about the Sanctuary Advisory Council please visit: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/main.html>.

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS)

The National Marine Sanctuary System consists of 14 marine protected areas that encompass more than 150,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington State to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The system includes 13 national marine sanctuaries and the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The ONMS, which manages the system, was established under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act of 1972. Visit the ONMS web site at: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/>.

Channel Islands National Park

To learn about Channel Islands National Park visit their web site at: <http://www.nps.gov/chis/homepage.htm>.

GET INVOLVED AND STAY INFORMED!

To learn how to get involved in the sanctuary visit: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/involved.html>

Sign up for the CINMS listserv to receive email notices about upcoming sanctuary events, and public meetings of the Sanctuary Advisory Council and its working groups: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/list.html>

- CONTACT INFORMATION -

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

113 Harbor Way, Suite 150
Santa Barbara, California
93109
Phone: (805) 966-7107
Fax: (805) 568-1582
www.channelislands.noaa.gov