

Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

DRAFT Key Meeting Outcomes

Friday, May 15, 2015

Casa Las Palmas, Santa Barbara, CA

Note: Upon approval by the council (expected in July 2015), this document will be posted online at http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/meeting_notes.html. Audio recordings of this meeting are available upon request to Michael.Murray@noaa.gov.

Attendance: At peak, 17 of the council's 21 voting seats were present (see attached attendance roster). Four seats were absent for the day: NOAA Fisheries, US Coast Guard, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), and Ventura County. Public attendance varied from about 5 to 10 people.

Administrative Business and Announcements

The draft key outcomes document for the March 20, 2015 advisory council meeting was approved by the council as final (it will be posted at http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/meeting_notes.html).

Announcing New Council Representative and Recognizing Outgoing Council Members

Sanctuary Advisory Council Chair Diane Black announced a new council representative, Julia Coates, from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. She recognized four outgoing council members: Kristi Birney, Conservation; Debra Herring, Non-Consumptive Recreation; Elizabeth Petras, NOAA Fisheries; and Bruce Steele, Commercial Fishing.

Sanctuary Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Chris Mobley noted that Sanctuary Deputy Superintendent for Programs, Michael Murray, is currently part of the NOAA leadership program and is on detail under Russell Galipeau at the Channel Islands National Park Service. Superintendent Mobley also highlighted the following topics:

- Dr. Russell Callender, Acting Assistant Administrator, National Ocean Service visited the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary main office last April.
- NOAA has announced a whale advisory zone from Point Arguello to Dana Point.
- Ken Tatro, Channel Islands Naturalist Corps Volunteer, was recognized as volunteer of the year and received a plaque from the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation.

Council Member Announcements

A number of council members shared announcements (unrelated to meeting agenda items). Audio recordings are available upon request.

Student Presentations

Students from Jose Chicote's 6th grade Hollister Elementary class presented on relevant science topics as part of the MERITO program. Bianca Ortiz presented on underwater noise pollution, Maleah Jourdan on ocean acidification, and Mark Macduffee on offshore oil spills.

U.S. Navy Fiber Optic Cable Project

Council member John Ugoretz from the U.S. Navy presented to the council on the Navy's Fiber Optic Cable Undersea System Replacement (FOCUS II). He noted that the current data communication system within the Point Mugu Sea Range is reaching the end of its lifespan, and will need to be replaced to provide continued reliable operation of real-time communications capability in the sea range. John explained the proposed action and project description. He also gave an overview of the consultations that the Navy is required to conduct with government

agencies and institutions before the project can move forward. John presented a preliminary project timeline, with cable installation expected to begin in 2018.

Council members raised questions about potential impacts to the fishing community and visitors to the Channel Islands; disruption of hazardous waste dumping sites; removal of old fiber optic cables; and new seafloor mapping. John explained that impacts to various groups will be addressed in the extensive consultation process and that removal of the old fiber optic cables is not in the current plan, but it will be considered in the consultation process. John noted that he will keep the council informed on the draft environmental assessment and opportunities for public comment on the project.

Ocean Acidification

Dr. Gretchen Hofmann and Lydia Kapsenberg from UCSB's Marine Science Institute presented on ocean acidification (OA) field work done in partnership with CINMS, and OA education and outreach projects. Dr. Hofmann gave an overview of the collaborations that have facilitated ongoing OA research in the region, including the deployment of sensors and creation of one of the best instrumented regional networks in the world. Lydia presented some preliminary data and results from their research, noting that scientists used to think of OA as a homogenous phenomenon, but data from local sensors indicate that it is highly variable. She explained that their data shows pH variability over seasonal, regional, local, and event scales, which has important ecological implications. Lydia noted that in some cases, patterns in pH variability correlate with the presence of photosynthesizing eelgrass, kelp, and phytoplankton. She commented that natural pH variability may provide spatial or temporal ocean acidification refuges.

Council member discussions included questions about the effects of different eelgrass, kelp and phytoplankton species on ocean pH. Council members also raised points about the effects of wind and kelp decomposition on ocean acidification.

Sanctuary Classic

Jenny Armstrong from the Sportfishing Conservancy presented on the upcoming 3rd annual sanctuary classic fishing and photo contest, which will take place from July 4th to September 7th. Jenny explained that the sanctuary classic is meant to promote responsible, ethical recreational fishing among families in National Marine Sanctuaries across the United States. Jenny talked about the photo contests, explaining that each week one photo will be selected by judges at the Sportfishing Conservancy to win the weekly prize. At the end of the contest, eight \$500 Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation scholarships will be awarded based on how well photos show all or a combination of: Kids Fishing, Kids and Family Values, Kids in the Outdoors, Kids in the Sanctuaries and Kids' Conservation. Jenny highlighted that the Sportfishing Conservancy welcomes questions, comments, and suggestions from the SAC. More information: <http://sanctuaryclassic.org/>.

Presentation on New Office of National Marine Sanctuaries Economic Reports

Sean Hastings, Sanctuary Resource Protection Coordinator, highlighted findings from a new report on impacts of recreational fishing in CINMS. Sean noted that he was filling in for Bob Leeworthy, Chief Economist at the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, who was unable to make it to this SAC meeting. Sean commented that the purpose of this study is to inform sanctuary management, and a key takeaway point is that recreational fishing is an important economic driver and sector to the sanctuary region.

Council members David Bacon, Eric Kett, Greg Helms, Vic Cox, and Phylis Grifman expressed support for inviting Bob Leeworthy to another SAC meeting in the future. Council members voiced interest in learning more about the context of this report and the relative economic contribution of recreational fishing compared to other sectors. David Bacon highlighted that recreational and commercial fishing are important sectors in the sanctuary that deserve more marketing support.

Chumash Tribal Marine Protected Area Project

Council member Luhui Isha Ward gave an update on a Chumash tribal marine protected areas project. She explained that the program combines traditional knowledge and western marine science to educate children about marine protected areas. Luhui also solicited feedback from the council on a Chumash tribal marine protected areas

map, which is in draft form and will be used as an educational tool for students in elementary school. Luhui explained that educators will receive an interactive DVD along with the map. Council member feedback on the map included: Chumash native sites should be bigger on the map; cetaceans should be mentioned in the section about the Southern California Bight; an online website would be beneficial in addition to a DVD; the tomol crossing should be included in the map; the map has value beyond the target audience of third and fourth graders and should be distributed to a wider group.

Presentation from Visit Santa Barbara

Kathy Janega-Dykes, President CEO; JessyLynn Perkins, Digital Marketing Manager; and Noelle Buben, Marketing Manager, presented on Visit Santa Barbara (VSB), including updates on the [CINMS profile webpage](#). Kathy explained that VSB is about promoting a diversity of tourism activities in Santa Barbara and increasing off-peak visitation. Kathy stated that VSB is currently drafting a marketing plan that will be released next month that includes initiatives and expected results. Noelle and JessyLynn discussed some of the VSB advertising and marketing tactics, which include paid media, social media, public relations, and partnerships. Noelle highlighted an annual VSB brochure, which includes coverage of CINMS and local fishermen. JessyLynn noted that there are some upcoming promotions, including a Top Chef episode in Santa Barbara that will air in the fall. Council comments included recommendations to increase marketing of sustainable seafood and recreational fishing.

Working Group Reports

Marine Shipping Working Group (MSWG)

Marine Shipping Working Group (MSWG) co-chairs Phyllis Grifman and Kristi Birney explained that the second MSWG meeting took place over the course of two webinars that were largely focused on information sharing. Some of the meeting topics included shipping patterns, international maritime organization regulations, whale data, air quality, and economic data, among others. They stated that working group members are currently tasked with SeaSketch assignments and will convene again in person on June 29th.

Channel Islands Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Enforcement

Bill Strubel, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, stated that the TAC had a quarterly meeting last week, which facilitated communication among agencies that have overlapping jurisdiction at the islands. Meeting highlights included participation by US EPA, US Coast Guard updates on smuggling, and discussion of a vessel grounding at San Miguel Island.

Chumash Community Working Group

Luhui Isha Ward and Mati Waiya introduced the new Director of Finance at Wishtoyo.

Research Activities Panel (RAP)

Bob Warner reported on the April 15th RAP meeting. He noted that sanctuary staff covered their research program priorities and explained mechanisms for researchers to coordinate with the sanctuary for vessel operations. Bob also mentioned that sea star and abalone recovery was discussed, as well as the spread of *Sargassum horneri*, a non-native algae.

Marketing Subcommittee

No update.

Sanctuary Education Team (SET)

Cliff Rodriguez explained that the SET has been planning an art contest for K-12 students, with the potential theme “hope for the oceans.” Cliff expressed interest in bringing the art contest winners to the advisory council to present their work. Cliff also noted that the SET is interested in designating the sanctuary as a Sylvia Earl Mission Blue Hope Spot.

Recreational Fishing Working Group

Capt. David Bacon noted that he attended a meeting at the Fred Hall show for the newly formed California Coastal Conservation Association. He stated that approximately 1,400 people signed up, and that two initial goals were set: 1) enhance habitat and 2) enhance populations of inshore fish.

Commercial Fishing Working Group

Bruce Steele noted that the Pacific Fishery Management Council met recently. Bruce also noted that it is ~15 years in to a cool phase of the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (which operates on ~25 year cycle), which is impacting multiple fisheries including sardines, mackerel, and squid.

Conservation Working Group (CWG)

Kristi Birney reported that the CWG met on May 13, 2015 and that meeting notes are available. Kristi noted that she attended the MPA Collaborative South Coast Forum in April and that there was a strong showing from advisory council members and the local community. She also mentioned that a MPA Collaborative enforcement training for law enforcement officers is taking place on May 28.

Future Meeting Schedule

- July 17: Oxnard
- September 18: Santa Barbara
- November 20: Ventura

Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting Attendance Roster (May 15, 2015)

Andrea Mills	Tourism	<i>Present</i>
Garrett Kababik	Tourism - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Debra Herring	Non-Consumptive Recreation	<i>Present</i>
Stuart Wilson	Non-Consumptive Recreation - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Michael Cohen	Business	<i>Present</i>
Capt. Kip Louttit	Business - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Kristi Birney	Conservation	<i>Present</i>
Greg Helms	Conservation - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Bruce Steele	Commercial Fishing	<i>Present</i>
Stephanie Mutz	Commercial Fishing - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Capt. David Bacon	Recreational Fishing	<i>Present</i>
Merit McCrea	Recreational Fishing - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Amanda Allen	Education	<i>Absent</i>
Cliff Rodrigues	Education - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Dr. Robert Warner	Research	<i>Present</i>
Dr. Mark Steele	Research - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Phyllis Grifman	Public At Large #1	<i>Present</i>
Victor Cox	Public At Large #1 - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Eric Kett	Public At Large #2	<i>Present</i>
Richard Block	Public At Large #2 - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Luhui Isha Waiya	Chumash Community	<i>Present</i>
Mati Waiya	Chumash Community - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Elizabeth Petras	NOAA Fisheries	<i>Absent</i>
Shelby Mendez	NOAA Fisheries - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Russell Galipeau	National Park Service	<i>Present</i>
David Ashe	National Park Service - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
CDR Casey Hehr	US Coast Guard	<i>Absent</i>
LT CMDR Joseph Giammanco	US Coast Guard – Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Donna Schroeder	BOEM	<i>Absent</i>
Dr. Ann Bull	BOEM - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
John Ugoretz	Dept. of Defense	<i>Present</i>
Walt Schobel	Dept. of Defense - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Craig Schulman	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife	<i>Absent</i>
Julia Coates	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Rich Rozzelle	CA Natural Resources Agency	<i>Present</i>
Amy Vierra	CA Natural Resources Agency - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Dr. Jonna Engel	CA Coastal Commission	<i>Present</i>
Kristen Hislop	CA Coastal Commission - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Dianne Black	Santa Barbara County	<i>Present</i>
<i>vacant</i>	Santa Barbara County - Alternate	
Danielle Tarr	Ventura County	<i>Absent</i>
<i>vacant</i>	Ventura County - Alternate	
Chris Mobley	Channel Islands NMS [non-voting]	<i>Present</i>
Paul Michel	Monterey Bay NMS [non-voting]	<i>Absent</i>
Karen Grimmer	Monterey Bay NMS - Alternate [non-voting]	<i>Absent</i>
Maria Brown	Gulf of the Farallones NMS [non-voting]	<i>Absent</i>
Brian Johnson	Gulf of the Farallones NMS [non-voting]	<i>Absent</i>