

Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

Draft Key Meeting Outcomes

Friday, March 20, 2015

9:30 am – 2:45 pm

Robert J. Lagomarsino Visitor Center at the Channel Islands National Park Headquarters
1901 Spinnaker Drive · Ventura Harbor, CA

Note: Upon approval by the council (expected in May 2015), this document will be posted online at http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/meeting_notes.html

Attendance: At peak, 15 of the council's 21 voting seats were present (see attached attendance roster). Six seats were absent for the day: Commercial fishing, Chumash Community, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), California Department of Fish & Wildlife, California Natural Resources Agency, and Ventura County. Public attendance varied from about 5 to 10 people.

Administrative Business and Announcements

Sanctuary Deputy Superintendent for Programs Michael Murray presented edits to the January 23 meeting draft key outcomes from Paulette Luhui Isha Ward. The revised draft key outcomes report from the January meeting was adopted as final.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Chris Mobley introduced Morgan Visalli, 2015 California Sea Grant Fellow, who joined CINMS in February and will be with the sanctuary for one year. Chris also highlighted the following topics:

- The sanctuary is seeking applicants for 12 positions on the council. Application materials are available on the sanctuary website, and applications are due March 31.
- A final rule was published for the expansion of Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank sanctuaries. Gulf of the Farallones will become the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary.
- The acting head of the National Ocean Service, Russell Callender, will be visiting the sanctuary office in April.
- Deputy Superintendent Michael Murray is participating in a NOAA leadership program and will be doing a 3-month detail assignment at Channel Islands National Park.
- The sanctuary system has an annual leadership team meeting, and this year's meeting will take place in Santa Barbara the week of September 14th.

Chris also mentioned that the sanctuary's R/V *Shearwater* has a newly installed shipboard computer system. He also reported on the Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteer recognition dinner, which was held in January, and acknowledged Kristi Birney's "Sanctuary Advisory Council Leadership" award and Ken Tatro's Channel Islands Naturalist Corps "Blue Whale" award.

Council Member Announcements

A number of council members shared announcements (unrelated to meeting agenda items). Audio recordings are available upon request. Kip Louttit provided an updated vessel traffic report from the Marine Exchange. Marinetransit.com offers a view of live traffic. Kip discussed the current congestion issue in the ports. John Ugoretz noted that the Navy is preparing drafting environmental impact assessment for the fiber optic cable going out to the islands and that he plans to present information to the SAC at the May council meeting. Russell Galipeau challenged sanctuary and park volunteers to find five new people to bring to the park and sanctuary in the next year. Also, April 2 is the kickoff of a "Find your Park" campaign to start celebrating the National Park Service's centennial anniversary.

NOAA Ship *Bell M. Shimada* CINMS Mission

Guests Dirk Rosen (Executive Director, Marine Applied Research & Exploration) and Sarah Raskin (Haydock Academy of Arts and Sciences) shared information from their experience on board NOAA Ship *Bell M. Shimada* for a research cruise investigating the effects of ocean acidification on deep sea corals in the sanctuary. Using a remotely operated vehicle, the research team explored the seafloor, collected water samples and also collected samples of coral for laboratory testing. The team also included mapping specialists who used sonar technology to document previously unmapped areas of the seafloor.

Sarah and Dirk shared photos from the cruise and discussed the research team, sonar systems, the Beagle ROV able to go 1,000 meters deep, coral aging using radio carbon measurements, water testing using CTD-niskin rosettes. The research team found that *Lophelia pertusa* corals are growing as shallow as 80 meters. Dirk shared ROV footage of fish and Gorgonian corals off Carrington point and *Lophelia pertusa* corals in deeper waters, about 300 meters deep. The cruise also included a media day on March 18. Members of the media witnessed a live ROV dive and coral sampling. Sarah noted that the cruise is a great opportunity for students to make a connection with the sanctuary, and while aboard the *Shimada*, she contributed to her school's blog, documenting her Teacher at Sea experience. The blog website is haydocksteam.blogspot.com. The research group will be returning to the sanctuary in August 2015.

Council discussions related to the types of coral samples collected, the educational aspect of the cruise, and the technology used aboard the vessel.

Public Comment (morning)

Leslie Purcell noted that she saw a stranded seal pup near Ventura Harbor that eventually went out to sea and also spotted another harbor seal onshore.

Santa Cruz Island Shoreline Cleanup

Michael Cohen reported on a gathering of volunteers that recently helped clean debris from the Yellow Banks shoreline of Santa Cruz Island. Nearly 40 volunteers participated via Island Packers from groups including NMFS, CINMS, SB zoo, EDC, and Ty Warner Sea Center, and others, and collected 1,300 pounds of trash. The council viewed a YouTube video clip from a news segment on the beach cleanup.

Center of Excellence for Unmanned Technologies at CINMS

Matt Pickett, former manager of CINMS and current sanctuary contractor, outlined the numerous permits and requirements that could be required for government drone usage in the sanctuary, and showed the council a video from the Center of Excellence. Matt explained that CINMS is a great venue for opportunities with nearby partners, such as Vandenberg AFB and the Navy's base at Point Mugu. Four sanctuary staff around the country are trained to fly these vehicles (UAS = unmanned aircraft system. USV = unmanned surface vehicle). Challenges include a dynamic policy and regulatory environment, payload development, habitat mapping, AUV (autonomous underwater vehicle) and USV projects, and ongoing funding. Next steps will be to develop UAS capacity at sanctuary sites, procure UAS systems/payloads, expand partnerships, and find/receive funding for AUV/USV projects.

Council discussions related to the range for these vehicles, use of this technology for whale research, and partnership opportunities. Elizabeth Petras noted that drone footage posted on YouTube is illegal because it qualifies as commercial use. Matt also noted that this technology presents a great opportunity for environmental monitoring that doesn't disturb wildlife.

Sanctuary Tourism Outreach

Sanctuary volunteer/outreach coordinator Shauna Bingham updated the council on planned tourism outreach activities and planned product development for the sanctuary. Shauna discussed the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries' national travel and tourism strategy; there is a collective effort at the federal level to have a strategy for tourism in America to create jobs and economic growth. A draft travel and tourism strategic plan focuses on

promoting U.S. territories and visitor services. ONMS is currently taking inventory of current projects and is identifying needs and gaps with the goal of sustainable, enjoyable, and profitable tourism.

Current projects for the sanctuary system's West Coast Region Tourism Team include a Travel Writer Brochure and participation in the Central Coast Tourism Council. ONMS outreach projects include "Get Into Your Sanctuary Day" (June 26-28, 2015) and the IPW International Tourism Conference. The National Travel and Tourism Strategy's goal is to increase American jobs by attracting and welcoming 100 million international visitors, and to encourage Americans to travel within the United States. The strategy instructs federal agencies to begin developing plans to help reach this overarching goal. Implementation of the strategic plan will help the National Marine Sanctuary System reach its goal of increased travel and tourism to national marine sanctuaries through increased visibility and responsible visitation to the system and its partner institutions. Council discussions related to outreach in the diving community and the National Park Service's "Find Your Park" campaign. Russell Galipeau noted that the Find Your Park official logo will be out soon and that the campaign is not necessarily only about finding your *national* park. It's about finding the special space that you respect and value (your "park").

Public Comment (afternoon)

Shauna Bingham responded to a question about whether there were public tours for the *Shimada* cruise. There were not because of Navy access restrictions at Port Hueneme.

Ben Pitterle, from Santa Barbara Channelkeeper, updated the council on a project related to ecotourism in local marine waters. A finished brochure lists the Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and local vendors that offer non-consumptive recreation and includes QR codes linking to vendors and MPA profiles.

Leslie Purcell noted that she had been out three times with Island Packers but cautioned that places (such as Yosemite and Joshua Tree) can get "loved to death," so it is important that be avoided at the Channel Islands.

Working Group Reports

Channel Islands Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Enforcement

Bill Struble reported that the committee met yesterday, and there was a strong showing. There have been enforcement issues in the western side of the sanctuary, but the enforcement app is making it easier for people to get information.

Dayna Matthews, NOAA West Coast enforcement coordinator, reported on the merging of the Office of Law Enforcement's southwest and northwest division into a west coast division and reviewed areas of responsibility. Advantages to the merger include consistent west coast enforcement policies and common fishery management plans for the entire west coast. Dayna outlined the current and planned west coast division, which includes a reduced number of agents in order to increase the number of enforcement officers. The southern California hub for agents will be in Long Beach. Dayna also discussed the national identification of enforcement priorities, including sanctuary enforcement priorities. Discharges, vessel groundings, and vehicular operations are listed as high priorities, and prohibition on take, restricted areas, and MPAs are listed as medium priorities. Dayna recommended visiting NOAA's general counsel enforcement website at www.gc.noaa.gov/enforce-office.html, where prosecuting attorneys list pending cases and outcomes (for California and the nation) on a quarterly basis. Following the merger and with a new budget, Dayna aims to attend sanctuary meetings at least twice per year. Council discussion related to the prioritization of certain topics as medium or high. Dayna emphasized that anything listed is important, and he welcomes feedback on how things should be prioritized.

Marine Shipping Working Group

Marine Shipping Working Group (MSWG) co-chairs Phyllis Grifman and Kristi Birney reported on the first meeting of the working group which was held on February 25 in Santa Barbara. Phyllis noted some challenges that came up during the meeting, including a conference call line that did not work well. Issues to address before the next meeting include the lack of coherent agreement on information and data and clarifying the relationship and roles of sanctuaries, chairs, and facilitators. Kristi noted that a website is planned that will include all MSWG materials, PowerPoint presentations, notes, meeting summaries and key outcomes. These MSWG stakeholder meetings include experts with strong perspectives, so there will be some tough conversations and the group will need to rely on facilitation team for assistance with that. Key

conversation topics during the MSWG meeting included the following: scenarios and whether two scenarios is too limiting; defining the charge of the working group and how that charge is framed; the role of air quality; and the use of the SeaSketch tool and available data. The next meeting is planned for April 30th at the Marine Exchange [subsequently changed to a Webinar]. On a related topic, the Vessel Speed Reduction trial results, Elizabeth Petras suggested that the language regarding air emissions reduction is unclear and should be clarified to indicate that the 50% emissions reduction is only for participating vessels in the trial.

Research Activities Panel

Bob Warner reported that the Research Activities panel will meet on the afternoon of April 15 at the CINMS office at UCSB.

Marketing Subcommittee

Michael Cohen reported on recent Channel Islands visits from travel writers. A writer from Sunset Magazine/Outside Magazine may be going on a trip to Painted Cave. Also, writers from Men's Health magazine made a surprise trip to the islands. He also discussed recent social media efforts to post, "like", and share news with sanctuaries and other partners.

Sanctuary Education Team

Amanda Allen reported that the Sanctuary Education Team met via phone call on February 18 to discuss possible programs/event. Three ideas discussed included youth presentations at council meetings, a public lecture with notable speaker (maybe Bob Ballard), and a youth art contest. Another phone conference meeting is planned for March 25. Council discussion related to potential partnership opportunities for these projects. For example, Channelkeeper sponsors an art contest in the fall, and the Sea Center hosts lectures. The California Coastal Commission has an art and poetry contest as well. A Channel Islands subcategory within an existing contest or activity could be a possibility. There could also be opportunities to partner with the state science fair, through an award for coastal or ocean science projects. Several SAC member expressed support for a special science fair award or prize.

Recreational Fishing Working Group

Recreational Fishing Alternate Seat, Merit McCrea, reported that March is a big month for the sport fishing community. Also, the United Anglers of Southern California is now the California chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association (a national organization of recreational anglers).

Commercial Fishing Working Group

No update

Conservation Working Group

Conservation Member Seat, Kristi Birney, reported that the Conservation Working Group met on Wednesday, and notes from that meeting are available. The South Coast MPA Collaborative Forum is April 29 at Cabrillo Aquarium. Also, PISCO has created a short brochure regarding 10 years of monitoring at the Channel Islands Marine Protected Areas. Kristi also reported that the Vessel Speed Reduction trial results report is out, and she has received feedback on how to edit and clarify air emissions reduction wording.

Chumash Community Working Group

No update, however, Luhui Isha Ward sent Michael Murray a note that a Chumash pow wow event will be held in Malibu on April 11 and 12, and council members are invited to attend.

Future Meeting Schedule

May 15: Santa Barbara

July 17: Oxnard

September 18: Santa Barbara

November 20: Ventura

Meeting Attendance Roster (March 20, 2015)

Andrea Mills	Tourism	<i>Present</i>
Garrett Kababik	Tourism – Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Debra Herring	Non-Consumptive Recreation	<i>Present</i>
Stuart Wilson	Non-Consumptive Recreation -	<i>Present</i>
Michael Cohen [Secretary]	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>Absent</i>
Stephanie Mutz	Commercial Fishing - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Capt. David Bacon	Recreational Fishing	<i>Absent</i>
Merit McCrea	Recreational Fishing - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Amanda Allen	Education	<i>Present</i>
Cliff Rodrigues	Education – Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Dr. Robert Warner	Research	<i>Present</i>
Dr. Mark Steele	Research – Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Phyllis Grifman [Vice-Chair]	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>
Paulette Luhui Isha Ward	Chumash Community	<i>Absent</i>
Mati Waiya	Chumash Community - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Elizabeth Petras	NOAA Fisheries	<i>Present</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>Present</i>
LT CMDR Joseph Giammanco	US Coast Guard – Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Donna Schroeder	Bureau of Ocean Energy Mgmt	<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 Shuman	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife	<i>Absent</i>
<vacant>	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Rich Rozzelle	CA Natural Resources Agency	<i>Absent</i>
Amy Vierra	CA Natural Resources Agency -	<i>Absent</i>
Dr. Jonna Engel	CA Coastal Commission	<i>Present</i>
Kristen Hislop	CA Coastal Commission - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Dianne Black [Council Chair]	Santa Barbara County	<i>Present</i>
<vacant>	Santa Barbara County - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Danielle Tarr	Ventura County	<i>Absent</i>
<vacant>	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-	<i>Absent</i>