

**Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary  
Sanctuary Advisory Council**

**FINAL Key Meeting Outcomes**

**March 15, 2013**

**Billie M. Connally Auditorium, Robert J. Lagomarsino Visitors Center, Channel Islands  
National Park Headquarters  
Ventura Harbor, CA**

*Note: This document will be posted on line at <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/minutes.html>.  
Audio recordings of Council meetings are available upon request to [michael.murray@noaa.gov](mailto:michael.murray@noaa.gov).*

**Attendance:** At peak, seventeen of the Council's twenty-one voting seats were present (see attached attendance roster). Two seats were absent for the day: Research, and the Chumash Community. Maximum public attendance was 12 people.

**Administrative Business and Announcements**

Chair Eric Kett opened the meeting with a respectful remembrance for Capt. Fred Benko who recently passed away. A moment of silence was observed for this well-known community member, after which several council members shared appreciations and favorite memories of Capt. Benko.

Chair Eric Kett announced the departure of two members from the council: Linda Krop and Capt. Richard McKenna. Eric and Chris Mobley acknowledged them for their many years of service and valuable contributions, and both Capt. McKenna and Linda Krop offered words of appreciation to the council, reflecting on their years of service and the importance of the council's work. Kristi Birney from the Environmental Defense Center was introduced as the new Conservation seat member. Eight other members were announced as having been appointed to the following positions: Phyllis Grifman, Public-At-Large seat member; Greg Helms, Conservation seat alternate; Debra Herring, Non-Consumptive Recreation seat member; Eric Kett, Public-At-Large seat member; Stephanie Mutz, Commercial Fishing seat alternate; Bruce Steele, Commercial Fishing seat member; Dr. Mark Steele, Research seat alternate; and Dr. Robert Warner, Research seat member.

Draft key outcomes for the January 18, 2013 meeting were unanimously approved by the council.

***Superintendent's Report***

Superintendent Chris Mobley highlighted several items in the Superintendent's Report (provided to all SAC members and the attending public and available at <http://www.channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/super.html>).

Chris Mobley highlighted the recent Park & Sanctuary Volunteer Recognition Dinner where the advisory council's Sanctuary Education Team received the "SAC Inspiration Award" and Paul Petrich received the Channel Islands Naturalist Corps' volunteer of the year "Blue Whale Award." Chris also mentioned that all SAC members should have received an invitation to the Channel Islands Boating Center opening ceremony on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, which is a significant milestone for the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. Other updates from Chris included mentioning the launch of a CINMS Facebook page and Twitter account. CINMS Resource Protection Coordinator Sean Hastings added recent news on ships and whales in the sanctuary, as well as the June 1st shipping lane changes within the Santa Barbara Channel. Sean also described his participation at a recent North American Marine Environment Protection Association environmental seminar series, where he spoke with shipping industry and agency representatives about the issues and work that is being undertaken to mitigate ship

strikes. Chris Mobley also announced that sanctuary staff member Natalie Senyk is soon moving to Kauai and will unfortunately no longer be working with CINMS. She will be missed!

### ***Council Member Announcements***

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

### **Presentation: “The Non-Market Value of Private Recreational Boating in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary”**

Kiya Gornik, Ching-Cheng Lin, Gavin McDonald, Nathaniel Ng, Christine Quigley, and Daniel Viana presented their Master’s thesis group project for UCSB’s Bren School. The students explained that their project analyzed existing data about private recreational boaters (PRBs) visitation to CINMS. The students translated PRBs’ choices about where to visit in the sanctuary into economic value. The students explained that they developed a model to analyze the choices of PRBs regarding visitation, activity, and site choice. They further explained that the model was used to determine which characteristics are linked with user site choice to evaluate the magnitude of preference for these attributes. The group evaluated biological characteristics, kelp cover, wind exposure, personal preference and travel cost to look at which location on the islands to visit and in which activities to engage. The students found that boaters valued qualities of the sanctuary at an equivalent of between \$35 and \$53 per trip. These demonstrated how an important stakeholder group values the Sanctuary and provided a baseline model that can be manipulated to inform future management decisions. More information can be found at: <http://fiesta.bren.ucsb.edu/~cinms/>.

### **Public Comment**

Yaminquan Kakin, from the Chumash community, asked how Native American science would be incorporated into the advisory council’s process, if there will be any prohibited activities, and if native traditions will be covered. The Chair responded that the council has Chumash Community representatives who could not attend today.

### **Offshore Renewable Energy**

#### ***Introduction***

Dani Lipski introduced this item and reported that there is a growing interest in renewable energy and although we have not seen an offshore energy project proposal for our area recently it is reasonable to expect that we may see a proposal in the future. Dani stated that the sanctuary does not have a specific policy on offshore renewable energy but we do have regulations about seafloor damage and other relevant regulations. Dani provided two examples where other sanctuaries around the system had reviewed offshore energy proposals or had permitted limited projects.

#### ***Presentation: An Overview of Current Offshore Renewable Energy Technologies***

Jean Thurston, a Renewable Energy Specialist from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) presented on BOEM’s role in achieving safe, sound, ocean energy development. Ms. Thurston explained that wind energy is a developed technology while wave energy is developing and that Europe is the leader on these technologies. Ms. Thurston further explained differences between wave and wind energy, such as waves being more predictable than wind. Ms. Thurston discussed the different technologies of wind and wave energy and the advantages and examples of each. She also discussed key environmental issues such as ecosystem impacts, commercial recreational fishing impacts, viewshed, port and navigation, protected species, migratory corridors, sensitive habitats, cable

routing, military zones, radar impacts, and cumulative impacts. She emphasized more than once that BOEM has no jurisdiction over offshore renewable energy projects within national marine sanctuaries.

### **Youth Ocean Steward Council Presentation on Marine Protected Areas**

Oxnard High School students with the Earthbound Science Club gave presentation on their education and outreach materials on marine protected areas. The students described why MPAs are needed, the types of MPAs, and the benefits such as spillover, higher abundances, increased size of fish, increased diversity, and larger biomass. The students stated that a network of reserves provides more benefit than a single large reserve. The students explained the education and outreach activities they had accomplished and shared an educational video they had created about marine reserves. They also described how this project had influenced their confidence and career ambitions and how important the ocean is to them.

### **Proposed Council Letter on Site Evaluation List for National Marine Sanctuary System**

The council took up the proposed letter to support the reactivation of the site evaluation list for the National Marine Sanctuary System that had been tabled at the previous meeting. To ameliorate procedural confusion such as the type that occurred at the last council meeting, a 'cheat sheet' handout was passed around concerning Robert's Rules of Order. Final edits to bring together multiple views and ideas were incorporated into the SEL letter. These edits included adding how the "recreational fishing seat of the Channel Islands SAC has expressed concerns about possible restrictions on recreational fishing within Sanctuaries." The council voted on adoption of the letter with 13 "yes" votes, 0 no votes, and 4 abstentions, thus approving that the letter be sent to NOAA leadership.

### **Public Comment**

Dr. Andrea Neal commented about her concern for oversimplifying the MPA issue. Another question was raised on the whale ship strike issue and the current status of the shipping lane change.

A member of the public asked about the whale ship strike issue and the current status of the shipping lane change. Chris explained that the coast guard is engaged in the process of the upcoming shipping lane changes, which are slated to go into effect June 1<sup>st</sup>. Chris also mentioned that there was a recent ship strike: a fin whale came into the Port of Long Beach on the bow of a commercial ship.

### **Council Officer Elections for Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary**

Mike Murray discussed the elections and gave a brief description of the positions to be voted upon. He also explained that the current officers holding the Chair and Vice Chair positions are prevented from serving again in those positions because of officer term limits. Mike announced the nominations he had received: Dianne Black for Chair, Phyllis Grifman for Vice Chair, and Maria Petueli for Secretary. Given that there were no other nominations, the nominations were closed with the support of the council. The nominees received unanimous approval by voice vote, and were thus elected to their positions.

### **Working Group Reports**

Kristi Birney reported that at the recent Conservation Working Group meeting the group discussed new MPA signs that were installed at all Isla Vista beach access points and at Campus Point and Coal Oil Point. She also mentioned that the working group discussed the Central Coast MPA symposium was held in February, and that there was discussion about the US Coast Guard rule-making process to enact the upcoming shipping lane changes into federal regulation. The working group also discussed how the state's recent greenhouse gas cap-and-trade auction proceeds meeting in Los Angeles, where some individuals spoke in support of the proposed Vessel Speed Reduction Incentive Program. Kristi

also reported that she is working on a table of information that will help assess progress that has been made on the advisory council's 2009 ship strike reduction recommendations, and what work remains to be done. Kristi also encouraged council members to let her know if they have outreach ideas for World Oceans Day, June 8th.

**Meeting Close-Out**

Eric Kett closed out the meeting, noting that future council meetings are coming up on July 18, September 20, and November 15.

**Meeting Attendance Roster (3/15/2013):**

Andrea Mills	Tourism	Present
Matthew Curto	Tourism - Alternate	Present
Debra Herring	Non-Consumptive Recreation	<i>Absent</i>
vacant	Non-Consumptive Recreation - Alternate	----
Capt. Richard McKenna	Business	Present
Michael Cohen	Business - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Kristi Birney	Conservation	Present
Greg Helms	Conservation - Alternate	Present
Bruce Steele	Commercial Fishing	Present
Stephanie Mutz	Commercial Fishing - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Capt. David Bacon	Recreational Fishing	Present
Merit McCrea	Recreational Fishing - Alternate	Present
Maria Petueli	Education	Present
Amanda Allen	Education - Alternate	Present
Dr. Robert Warner	Research	<i>Absent</i>
Dr. Mark Steele	Research - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Phyllis Grifman [Council Secretary]	Public At Large #1	Present
Victor Cox	Public At Large #1 - Alternate	Present
Eric Kett [Council Chair]	Public At Large #2	Present
Richard Block	Public At Large #2 - Alternate	Present
Luhui Isha	Chumash Community	<i>Absent</i>
Mati Waiya	Chumash Community - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Elizabeth Petras	NOAA Fisheries	<i>Absent</i>
vacant	NOAA Fisheries - Alternate	----
Russell Galipeau	National Park Service	Present
David Ashe	National Park Service - Alternate	Present
CDR Christina Davidson	US Coast Guard	Present
vacant	US Coast Guard – Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Donna Schroeder	Bureau of Ocean Energy Mgmt (BOEM)	Present
Dr. Ann Bull	BOEM - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
John Ugoretz	Dept. of Defense	<i>Absent</i>
Walt Schobel	Dept. of Defense - Alternate	Present
Paul Hamdorf	CA Dept. of Fish & Game	<i>Absent</i>
Kristine Barsky	CA Dept. of Fish & Game - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Rich Rozzelle	CA Natural Resources Agency	Present
Amy Vierra	CA Natural Resources Agency - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Dr. Jonna Engel	CA Coastal Commission	Present
Steve Hudson	CA Coastal Commission - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Dianne Black	Santa Barbara County	Present
Susan Curtis	Santa Barbara County - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Gary Hirtensteiner	Ventura County	Present
Marilyn Miller	Ventura County - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Chris Mobley	Channel Islands NMS [non-voting]	Present
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>