

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

**Final Key Meeting Outcomes**

**November 19, 2010**

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

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

**Attendance:** At peak, 16 of the Council's twenty-one voting seats were present (see attached attendance roster). Five seats were absent for the day: California Resources Agency; California Coastal Commission; Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement; California Department of Fish and Game; and Commercial Fishing. Public attendance varied from 5 to 10 people.

**Administrative Business and Announcements**

The draft key outcomes report from the September 24, 2010 meeting was adopted as final.

***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>).

***Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative Update***

Sean Hastings presented a MLPA Initiative update. Sean shared process information on the status of each region in California, which are in various states of scoping, review, or implementation. Sean reported that in the south coast region Department of Fish and Game staff are preparing a CEQA document and soliciting public comments. The Draft EIR has been published and the Department is responding to comments and preparing a Final EIR. The Fish and Game Commission will meet in Santa Barbara on December 15 and 16<sup>th</sup>, with a decision expected on the south coast region. The mapped proposals under consideration are on the DFG website.

***CINMS Budget***

Chris reported that the sanctuary is currently operating under a "continuing resolution" (a Congressionally authorized temporary approval to keep operating in lieu of an approved budget for the whole fiscal year). CINMS is ultimately expecting a flat or declining budget for this year, and at the same time some costs are going up. Chris shared that the federal budget outlook is expected to be similar for the next several years, and this will affect CINMS operations such as vessel operations and contracts. The council engaged in a discussion of what the SAC can do, such as writing letters of support for research projects proposed for grant funding.

***Council Term Limits***

Mike Murray introduced a new policy that was implemented by ONMS headquarters for a 3-term limit for Advisory Council appointments. The policy is not retroactive and will not go into effect until the council renews the CINMS advisory council charter in 2014. Also, there are certain situations when the policy can be waived, which Mike explained. This led to a discussion of factors that influence membership such as attendance, state agency furloughs, having to attend on a day off work, and missing out on business opportunities. The discussion led to a proposal for a future agenda item to discuss possibilities to reduce the number of meetings, hold shorter meetings, and entertain remote options for participating.

**Council Member Announcements**

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

**Volunteer Appreciation**

Mike Murray highlighted the volunteer programs from the sanctuary and park. 1500 volunteers donate over 75,000 hours annually. Mike presented some slides from a recent Volunteer Appreciation event hosted by the park and sanctuary. Mike announced that Eric Kett received a SAC Leadership Award and Joel Justin received the Blue Whale award as a member of the Channel Islands Naturalist Corps. Carolyn Green received the park's Lighthouse award. Joel Justin spoke to the council, expressing his appreciation for the volunteer work he does with the Park and Sanctuary.

**Whale Ship Strikes**

Sean presented updates on the current ship strike work such as the latest notice to mariners. Sarah Green presented information from Natalie Senyk that shows a composite of whales seen in 2010 from a variety of sources such as whale watch vessels, aerial surveys, and Cascadia research. Sarah stated that 75% of vessel traffic is routing to the south of the islands. Cargo ships are going faster on the south side of the islands. Sean presented a report from Michelle Berman from the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History that the whale that washed up on San Miguel Island a few months ago. Michelle has since had an opportunity to examine the animal and they determined that the fatality was likely the result of a ship strike. Sean reported that there have now been 5 animals determined to be ship strikes in the Gulf of the Farallones region. Peter Fischel reported that NMFS has been working to develop a survey for distribution of whales and ships and to develop a model that will determine the risk of whales to ship strikes. Sarah Green and Kate Labrum from the Bren School presented information on their group project. Kate reported that they have been working to develop a model on the probability of whales and ships colliding on a scale of 5km. They will then look at those risks and analyze the management options, and the costs and benefits of those options.

**Public comment**

Roberta Cordero thanked the new Chumash Community members Luhui Isha and Vennise Miller-Forte for representing the community. The community is fully supportive of their participation. Roberta thanked other volunteers for their commitment to the council and stated that care of the oceans is very important to their community.

Kristi Birney from Environmental Defense Center recommended future discussion on the term limits for council members because some members who have been here for a long time have institutional knowledge that is beneficial to the council. Kristi stated that the ocean acidification workshop that she recently attended was a great event.

**Ocean Acidification**

Julie Bursek, CINMS Team Lead for Education and Outreach, reported on recent Ocean Acidification workshops that were held in October. Julie described how the workshops came about and recognized and thanked the partners that were involved. Julie talked about the speakers and described the variety of activities that were used as educational tools, as well as the web page created by Citrix Online: <http://cisanctuary.org/acidocean/>. Julie presented a small gift to Maria Petueli, Chair of the SET, for her leadership on the successful project. Chris stated that the contributions from the community were impressive and he would like to be sure our appreciation is presented properly.

**Marine Protected Areas in Chile**

Beatriz Ramirez, a fellow from Chile visiting CINMS, presented information on the governmental structure, laws, ecosystem regions, and collaborative projects with NGOs that are supporting marine conservation in Chile

and the creation of marine protected areas. Beatriz described the current situation of protected areas.

### **CINMS Documentary Film**

Chris introduced the recently completed high-definition documentary film, "*Beneath the Rainbow Bridge: A Journey Through the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.*" The 29-minute film was created over a period of about 5 years, and was directed and produced by NOAA cinematographer John Brooks. The council viewed the first segment of the film, and members were offered a DVD of the film.

### **Guest Presentation on a study of Advisory Councils**

Lauren Garske, a PhD Candidate at the University of California, Davis and a Dr. Nancy Foster Scholar with NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, gave a presentation on her research on the role of science in society (slides available upon request). In particular, she is investigating the role of science within Advisory Councils. Lauren stated that she will be interviewing council members and sanctuary staff. She asked anyone who is interested in sharing their perspective to contact her at [legarske@ucdavis.edu](mailto:legarske@ucdavis.edu).

### **Working Group Reports**

- A. CINMS Technical Advisory Committee on Enforcement.** In absence of a representative from the group, Mike Murray briefly explained that the group recently help a conference call meeting. The group exchanged information relative to activities they have been observing on the water around the Channel Islands, and set a meeting schedule for 2011.
- B. Chumash Community Working Group** (Luhui Isha, Vennise Miller-Forte). Luhui reported that the group has not been formalized but they have a meeting coming up next month to prepare for the December California Fish and Game Commission meeting. After that meeting they expect to be able to set the membership of the working group. Luhui commented that the Chumash community extends from Malibu up to San Luis Obispo and inland. Luhui also expressed an interest in making a presentation to the council about Chumash activities, and asked about getting that on the agenda. Luhui invited everyone to a solstice event in Malibu in December. Vennise asked the council on behalf of the Chumash community how submerged cultural artifacts are being handled, if observers are used when research seeks to locate artifacts, and what the guidance, requirements and protocols are for this kind of work. Chris Mobley explained that Bob Schwemmer is the main contact for the sanctuary, and Kelly Minas is the park's archaeologist. He, along with Russell Galipeau, suggested that more details could be provided at an upcoming SAC meeting.
- C. Sanctuary Education Team** (Maria Petueli). Nothing more to report. The SET's ocean acidification workshops have been very consuming.
- D. Research Activities Panel** (Bob Warner). The RAP did not hold a meeting, but Bob would like to convene a the group to discuss what he has learned about Australian MPAs, and to take up the topic raised earlier in the meeting about what work can get done in a declining budget environment.
- E. Recreational Fishing Working Group** (Capt. David Bacon). The working group did not meet but he reported that recreational fishermen have been meeting to discuss impacts of new state MPAs.
- F. Commercial Fishing Working Group** (Bruce Steele). No report.
- G. Conservation Working Group** (Greg Helms, for Linda Krop). The CWG did not meet this month.

### **Future Meeting Schedule**

- Friday, January 21, 2011 Santa Barbara
- Friday, March 18, 2011 Ventura
- May 1-5, 2011: Annual national SAC Summit, Savannah, Georgia (SAC Chair attends)
- Friday, May 20, 2011 Santa Barbara
- Friday, July 22, 2011 Ventura
- Friday, September 23, 2011 Santa Barbara
- Friday, November 18, 2011 Ventura

**Meeting Attendance Roster:**

Andrea Mills	Tourism	Present
Mat Curto	Tourism - Alternate	Absent
Debra Herring	Non-Consumptive Recreation	Present
Perry Ferguson	Non-Consumptive Recreation - Alternate	Absent
Capt. Richard McKenna	Business	Absent
Michael Wm Gould	Business - Alternate	Absent
Linda Krop	Conservation	Absent
Greg Helms	Conservation - Alternate	Present
Bruce Steele	Commercial Fishing	Absent
Vacant	Commercial Fishing - Alternate	---
David Bacon	Recreational Fishing	Present
Merit McCrea	Recreational Fishing - Alternate	Absent
Maria Petueli	Education	Present
Amanda Hendrickson	Education - Alternate	Present
Dr. Robert Warner	Research	Present
Dr. Mark Steele	Research - Alternate	Absent
Phyllis Grifman	Public At Large #1	Present
Vic Cox	Public At Large #1 - Alternate	Present
Eric Kett	Public At Large #2	Present
Marilyn Kelly	Public At Large #2 - Alternate	Absent
Paulette Luhui Isha Ward	Chumash Community	Present
Vennise Miller-Forte	Chumash Community - Alternate	Present
Peter Fischel	NOAA Fisheries	Present
Elizabeth Petras	NOAA Fisheries - Alternate	Absent
Russell Galipeau	National Park Service	Present
David Ashe	National Park Service - Alternate	Absent
Jason Collins	US Coast Guard	Present
Steve Arnwine	US Coast Guard – Alternate	Present
Donna Schroeder	BOEMRE	Absent
Ann Bull	BOEMRE - Alternate	Absent
J. Ugoretz	Dept. of Defense	Absent
Walt Schobel	Dept. of Defense - Alternate	Present
Marija Vojkavich	CA Dept. of Fish & Game	Absent
Kristine Barsky	CA Dept. of Fish & Game - Alternate	Absent
Brian Baird	CA Natural Resources Agency	Absent
Amy Vierra	CA Natural Resources Agency - Alternate	Absent
Steve Hudson	CA Coastal Commission	Absent
Barbara Carey	CA Coastal Commission - Alternate	Absent
Dianne Black	Santa Barbara County	Absent
Susan Curtis	Santa Barbara County - Alternate	Present
Lyn Krieger	Ventura County	Absent
Marilyn Miller	Ventura County - Alternate	Present
Chris Mobley	Channel Islands NMS [non-voting]	Present
Paul Michel	Monterey Bay NMS [non-voting]	Absent
Karen Grimmer	Monterey Bay NMS - Alternate [non-voting]	Absent
Maria Brown	Gulf of the Farallones NMS [non-voting]	Absent
Brian Johnson	Gulf of the Farallones NMS [non-voting]	Absent