

Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

DRAFT Key Meeting Outcomes
Friday, January 22, 2016

Casa Las Palmas
323 E. Cabrillo Blvd · Santa Barbara, CA

Note: Upon approval by the council (expected in March 2016), 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.

Administrative Business and Announcements

15 voting seats were represented during the meeting (see attached attendance roster).

Council Membership Changes

Dianne Black, Sanctuary Advisory Council Chair, announced that Eric Kett has been appointed as the new public-at-large alternate. In addition, Rich Rozzelle, California Natural Resource Agency Seat, announced that he is leaving the council because he is retiring from his position at California State Parks, and a new agency representative, yet to be identified, will be filling his seat.

November 20, 2015 Draft Key Outcomes

The council unanimously approved finalization of the Draft Key Outcomes summarizing the November 20, 2015 advisory council meeting.

Sanctuary Superintendent's Report

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) Superintendent Chris Mobley highlighted some sanctuary activities and accomplishments from the January 2016 Superintendent's Report. He noted that CINMS hosted a delegation from Sweden's Agency for Marine and Water Management (SWAM) and the Swedish Geological Survey to discuss environmental relation of the shipping industry. This bilateral exchange included discussion of vessel speed reduction, ballast water control, leakages from wrecks, and cumulative impact analysis.

Superintendent Mobley also noted that students participating in the Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans (MERITO) Academy developed interpretive signs for Ormond Beach to educate the public about endangered species, urban runoff, and marine debris. These signs were unveiled during a dedication ceremony at Ormond Beach last November. He also explained that the MERITO Foundation launched the *Energy Efficiency Program to Mitigate Climate Change and Ocean Acidification "EECCOA"* with high school and middle school teachers in Southern California.

Council Chair Report: 2016 National Sanctuary Advisory Council Summit Report

Dianne Black, Sanctuary Advisory Council Chair, gave a summary of the three-day National Sanctuary Advisory Council Summit that was held in Annapolis, Maryland. She explained that the first day of the summit focused on current events, including new potential sanctuary sites and sanctuary site expansions. Dianne noted that the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) will be seeking input from Sanctuary Advisory Councils on an updated ONMS strategic plan that is in development. In addition, Jim Landon, the newly-appointed head of NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement, would like to hear from Sanctuary Advisory Councils about their enforcement priorities. Dianne also noted that the majority of one meeting day focused on climate change, and she mentioned an interesting presentation on communicating about climate change. Finally, Dianne mentioned that there were presentations related to fundraising, economic valuation of sanctuaries, and social media.

Council members raised questions about sanctuaries' foundation partners, such as the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and the California Marine Sanctuary Foundation, and expressed interest in building a stronger relationship

between the foundations and the council. Some council members also expressed an interest in more information about the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary, recently accepted by ONMS as a nominated site (but not being considered for designation at this time).

Council Member Announcements

Council members noted that the 9th California Islands Symposium is scheduled for October 3-7, 2016 in Ventura, CA. A council member also suggested that the council invite Gary Davis to give his presentation, *Channel Islands National Park: The Past, Present, and Future* at a future meeting. In addition, a number of council members shared announcements (unrelated to meeting agenda items). Audio recordings are available upon request.

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Outlook for 2016

Superintendent Mobley presented the outlook for CINMS in 2016, including an overview of significant programmatic developments and expected events for the year. Some highlights in science, resource protection, education, and outreach included:

- Hosting and participating in multiple large mapping and research cruises in the sanctuary, including aboard the NOAA ship *Bell Shimada* and E/V *Okeanos Explorer*;
- Updating the site's Condition Report;
- Bringing the Marine Shipping Working Group recommendations to the council;
- Starting a new lobster trap loss prevention pilot project;
- Partnering with the National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region and the Friends of Rollo Program to take local fourth grade students fishing as part of the "Every Kid in the Park" Initiative; and
- Presenting about ocean acidification education at the 4th International Symposium on the Ocean in a High-CO2 World.

Chris Caldwell, CINMS Research Coordinator, commented in more detail about seafloor mapping needs in the sanctuary, and mapping goals for 2016. He explained that over 50% of the sanctuary seafloor remains uncharacterized. The State of California Seafloor and Coastal Mapping Steering Committee is setting priorities for seafloor mapping, and they are considering prioritizing new data acquisition in several areas off the state's coast, including at the Channel Islands. Council members expressed interested in hearing from Chris Caldwell again about this, and possibly considering a council letter of support to hopefully help influence state decision-makers to invest in additional seafloor mapping around the Channel Islands. It was agreed that this should be taken up at a future council meeting.

Public Comment

Jenna Driscoll from Santa Barbara Channelkeeper announced that Channelkeeper and the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History are co-hosting an "After the Spill" speaker series to address oil issues in Santa Barbara County. She noted that the first event would be held on February 10th and focus on oil spill preparedness and response. Jenna also noted that SB Channelkeeper has launched a new online El Niño portal web site including current news, rainfall, reservoir data, and preparedness tips: <http://www.sbck.org/news/el-nino-portal/>.

Kristen Hislop, Environmental Defense Center, announced that the California Coastal Commission will hold a public hearing regarding the possible termination of the Executive Director on February 10th, and she has information if anyone would like to discuss further.

NOAA National Weather Service Report

Mark Jackson, meteorologist in charge with the National Weather Service's Los Angeles/Oxnard office, provided an update on El Niño conditions, as well as a report on possible funding reductions and impacts to local marine weather buoys. He explained that strong El Niño conditions continue and warm water remains across the central Pacific. The latest 3-month average ocean temperature in Niño 3.4 region tied with 1997-98 as the warmest on record. Mark said that this strong El Niño will persist through the winter, then should weaken in spring. He explained that El Niño tilts the odds for above normal rainfall for California this winter, but it is not guaranteed. Mark noted that as of the January council meeting, rainfall in Santa Barbara was still below average, but it is possible that more rain will come from February-April. However, Mark explained that one season of above average rainfall will very likely

not end the drought, and much of California, including the Santa Barbara region, remains in “Exceptional Drought.”

Following the El Niño update, Mark explained that there are two local marine weather buoys, Goleta Point and Anacapa Passage, that may be taken out of the water due to possible funding reductions. The buoys are operated by the Coastal Data Information Program (CDIP) with funding from the California Department of Boating and Waterways (CDBW). Weather and ocean data collected by the buoys are frequently used by the NWS, as well as by local businesses, ports, harbors, researchers, and the general public. Mark explained that there is possibility that the Anacapa Passage buoy will be jointly funded by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the US Navy. Some members of the council stated that they will be negatively impacted if the buoys are removed. The council expressed interest in drafting a letter of concern regarding the buoy situation, to be considered at a future meeting.

Hollister Elementary School Student Presentations

Students from Jose Chicote’s 6th grade Hollister Elementary class presented on relevant science topics as part of the MERITO program. Amani Barraza presented on restoring Chumash maritime heritage, Riley Welch on oil spills, and Andre Battle on marine debris. The students, and Mr. Chicote, were well received by the council.

Shipping and Whales

Capt. Kip Louttit, Marine Exchange of Southern California and business alternate on the council, gave a brief update on ship traffic in the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. He explained that more ships transited through the Santa Barbara Channel, rather than the backside of the Channel Islands, in 2015 compared 2014. He noted that this may be due to change in air emissions regulations that went into effect January 1, 2015.

2015 Recap and Identification of 2016 Council Work Topics

Morgan Visalli, 2015 California Sea Grant Fellow, gave an overview of the council’s accomplishments in 2015, including: convening the Marine Shipping Working Group five times, voting to support a marine debris project proposal on lobster gear loss prevention and recovery, and sending a letter of support for a UCSB Bren School graduate student project.

Mike Murray, Sanctuary Advisory Council Coordinator, then briefly reviewed the council’s 2015 work topics and introduced a 2016 work topics worksheet. He explained that the 2016 worksheet includes eleven work topics that were proposed by staff, and these topics reflect the some of the major projects and program areas that staff expects to focus on in the coming year. These topics fall within the categories of shipping and vessel-related issues, marine protected areas, external support for the sanctuary, research community input, education, climate change effects, and possible developments in CINMS.

Then, the council had the opportunity to suggest 2016 work topics. Council members suggested ten additional topics, including: climate change adaptation, Channel Islands Symposium, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries strategic plan, enforcement priorities, National Park Service centennial, and marine debris and marine mammal entanglements.

From the full list of 21 potential work topics, including those proposed by staff and council members, council members were asked to rate each topic as high, medium, or low priority. Each council member or alternate individually filled out this worksheet and returned them to sanctuary staff. Sanctuary staff will then tally the rankings and prioritize the work topics based on the council’s input. This prioritized list of work topics will guide the content of the following council meetings for 2016.

Working Group Reports

- ***Channel Islands Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Enforcement***

It was mentioned that a group of NOAA General Counsel enforcement attorneys from around the US will meet in Santa Barbara in May for annual training activities.

- ***Research Activities Panel (RAP)***

Dr. Bob Warner, research seat, provided a report-out from the RAP meeting that occurred in December. He explained that there were two main topics of discussion at the meeting: updating the condition report and research permits within marine reserves. Dr. Warner explained that, with input from the RAP, the process for updating the condition report is better than it has been in the past. The new condition report will include more information about uncertainty and the quality of the information being used to draw conclusions. He explained that the RAP's actions improved the condition report system for the entire sanctuary system. Dr. Warner then reported on the RAP's discussion of research permits, and the fact that no real policy exists for research take within marine reserves. The RAP is interested in developing a policy that requires researchers to evaluate the impacts of their sampling.

- ***Marketing Subcommittee***

Michael Cohen, business seat, noted that in the beginning of 2015, he set the goal for the sanctuary to reach 5,000 likes on Facebook, and this goal was surpassed within the year. He has set a new challenge goal to reach 10,000 likes by next year. Michael also explained that a new Visit Santa Barbara website is being launched on March 1st. Finally, he recommended that the sanctuary obtain an Instagram account.

- ***Sanctuary Education Team (SET)***

Amanda Allen, education seat, announced that the next SET meeting is scheduled for February 1st at the Channel Islands Boating Center from 4-5pm. She noted that the previous meeting was focused on inviting youth group leaders from Santa Barbara to come and meet the set. The upcoming meeting will have a similar focus but for the Ventura/Oxnard area.

- ***Recreational Fishing Working Group***

Capt. David Bacon, recreational fishing seat, highlighted the economic importance of recreational fishing in the sanctuary and requested that additional marketing resources be directed towards recreational fishing.

- ***Commercial Fishing Working Group***

Stephanie Mutz, commercial fishing seat, announced that the nonprofit organization Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara received funding to hire an executive director. They have not hired someone yet but are hoping to find someone with a marketing and policy background.

- ***Conservation Working Group***

Kristi Birney, conservation seat, reported on the MPA Collaborative meeting on December 9th, during which they focused on strategic messaging about MPAs. She also noted that MPA master plan comments are due January 28th, and the lobster fishery management plan comment period is open as well. Finally, she noted that there is a study going on to assess the effects of organized tidepooling on the ecosystem.

- ***Chumash Community Working Group***

No report at this meeting

Meeting Close-Out

The council was reminded that upcoming council meetings in 2016 are scheduled for:

- Friday, March 18 - Ventura
- Friday, May 20 - Santa Barbara
- Friday, July 15 - Oxnard
- Friday, September 16 - Santa Barbara
- Friday, November 18 - Ventura

Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting Attendance Roster (January 22, 2016)

Andrea Mills	Tourism	<i>Present</i>
Garrett Kababik	Tourism - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Ben Pitterle	Non-Consumptive Recreation	<i>Absent</i>
Tony Knight	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>
Stephanie Mutz	Commercial Fishing	<i>Present</i>
John Hoadley	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>Present</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>Absent</i>
Victor Cox	Public At Large #1 - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Richard Block	Public At Large #2	<i>Present</i>
<i>vacant</i>	Public At Large #2 - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Luhui Isha Ward	Chumash Community	<i>Absent</i>
Mati Waiya	Chumash Community - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
<i>vacant</i>	NOAA Fisheries	--
Shelby Mendez	NOAA Fisheries - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Russell Galipeau	National Park Service	<i>Present</i>
<i>vacant</i>	National Park Service - Alternate	--
CDR Casey Hehr	US Coast Guard	<i>Present</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>Absent</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>Absent</i>
Molly Troup	CA Coastal Commission - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Dianne Black	Santa Barbara County	<i>Present</i>
Anne Almy	Santa Barbara County - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
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>