

**CINMS CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP**  
**5/15/13 REPORT**  
**Environmental Defense Center Conference Room,**  
**906 Garden Street, Santa Barbara**

**Present:** Linda Krop (EDC), Kristi Birney (EDC), Debra Herring, Jenn Feinberg Eckerle (NRDC), Greg Helms (Ocean Conservancy), Stuart Wilson, Christine Ryerson, Patricia Duffy, Kira Redman (SBCK), John Ugoretz (Navy)

**Staff:** Sean Hastings, Danielle (Danni) Lipski, and Andrea Dransfield

**I. INTRODUCTIONS**

**II. MARINE PROTECTED AREAS**

- A. CINMS/EDC Bren School group project: The Bren Group presented at the March 6<sup>th</sup> SAC meeting and the results were well received by the SAC. The full report will be posted on NOAA's Sanctuary [Socioeconomic Science](http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/science/socioeconomic/channelislands/boating.html) webpage along with a short two page fact sheet for the report. (<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/science/socioeconomic/channelislands/boating.html>).
- B. MPA implementation activities: a) Channelkeeper continues conducting MPA watch. Debra reported that she handed out the "Protecting Your Channel Islands" brochure and other Sanctuary education & outreach material to Lynn Houston at the City of Santa Barbara Airport Department.
- C. RAP MPA Reporting Questions: There was support from the CWG for short term presentations by David Kushner & Jenn Caselle (or any other researchers that would like to present information to the SAC). There was a good discussion about a comprehensive 10 year review and the challenges of securing funding for this effort. Issues discussed included: question about possible approach and if it would be similar to 5 year review with a (1) NCEAS science working group, (2) Presentation at CA Islands Symposium, and (3) PISCO brochure. There was also discussion about challenges including lack of a mandate or decision making body requesting this report, relevance of 10 year anniversary, possibility of monitoring funding running out in the near future. John suggested that in addition to SAC presentations other avenues could be explored such as the Shore to Seas Lecture Series. Sean reported that there is an enforcement synthesis in the works to examine 10 years of data pre & post MPA.

**III. WHALES & SHIPPING**

- A. Update & Progress Report on CWG Recommendations: Because of time constraints during the last SAC meeting the whales and shipping update was moved to the Superintendent's Report and there was not time to provide an update on the status of this effort. There will be time at the upcoming SAC meeting on Friday to provide this update. Kristi reported

that she continues to work with CINMS staff to fact check a reference table and will reach out to relevant SAC members after CINMS has finished its review. CINMS Sea Grant Fellow Andrea D. will be taking on the section of the report that will review and compare the CINMS Advisory Council report to the Gulf of the Farallones & Cordell Bank Joint Working Group Ship Strike Reports. As next steps Kristi will use the table and working group comparison to develop recommendations for more formal SAC consideration.

- B. USCG Rule-Making: Sean reported that the IMO recommendation for changing the lanes in the SB Channel will go into effect on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The USCG has not completed its process so a domestic rulemaking will not be complete by June 1<sup>st</sup>; however, the domestic process will commence within the next few months. The USCG is working with NOAA to get the charts updated and developing a Notice to Mariners (NOTM) with graphics. Sanctuaries will assist with sharing the NOTM and educating the maritime industry about the change.
- C. Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds Meeting:
- i. Kristi reported that the Governor has released the May Budget Revise (May 14) and has proposed loaning \$500 million of the first year's Cap-and-Trade Auction revenue to the general fund. The Budget still has to go through the legislative budget process. Efforts by SB County Air Pollution Control District, CINMS, and EDC are ongoing to build support for the Vessel Speed Reduction (VSR) Initiative and try to secure some funding (Cap-and-Trade or other funding) in this year's Budget.
  - ii. The Air Resources Board also just released the final three- year [Cap-and-Trade Investment Plan](#). SBCAPCD, CINMS, and EDC made a successful push during the public comment period for the draft plan and were able to get a wide base of support for the VSR Initiative securing letters of support from: California Coastal Commission, the California Ocean Protection Council, the U.S. Navy, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, the Environmental Defense Center, the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, the Maersk Line, over 280 community members, and many more.
- D. Other Whale Topics for Friday SAC Meeting: Sean mentioned that at Friday's SAC meeting he will cover the following items: whale poster, apps for whale monitoring/tracking that could be used on smart phones or computers, ride along on cargo ships, over flights, shipping lane changes; summer plan for whale NOTM.

#### **IV. RAP Memo**

- A. Discussion and support for the proposed RAP memo expressing concerns about data and evaluation quality not being mentioned in the National Conditions Report.

#### **V. OCEAN ACIDIFICATION**

- A. Updates:
- Kristi shared that she and Laura Francis (CINMS) are working to re-engage the group that participated in the Effective Practices for Communicating OA Workshop held in Monterey last September. Laura has reached out to the entire group and solicited suggestions on a Communication Matrix that was developed from that workshop. Kristi and Christine Quigley (an EDC Intern) will be leading the OA Messaging working group to refine the messages in the Matrix.
  - Kristi shared that Sanctuary staff have secured a volunteer group from Citrix Online that will be updating the "Understanding Ocean Acidification" web site ([cisantuary.org/acidocean](http://cisantuary.org/acidocean)) on June 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - NOAA is developing an OA Ocean Acidification Education Implementation Plan (OAEIP) that will be available to the public in the near future.

#### **VI. OTHER SAC ISSUES**

- A. World Ocean Day: CWG expressed support for World Ocean Day op-ed with some proposed edits to increase its chances of being selected as an article for media print. Kristi and John U. will work on edits.
- B. Sanctuary Classic: The CWG is looking forward to hearing about the upcoming Sanctuary Classic and how they have incorporated SAC recommendations to integrate responsible wildlife viewing guidelines into this year's tournament.
- C. Channel Islands Seabird Protection Network (SPN): Debra reported that SPN held their first Channel Islands Chapter meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup>. This chapter is known on as the Pt. Sur- Pt Mugu Chapter and will work on seabird protection along the coast and at the islands. They will be gathering to discuss issues and concerns while working to minimize levels of human disturbance to CA seabird colonies.
- D. SB Natural History Museum Town Hall Meeting: No one at the CWG meeting attended the meeting at the Natural History Museum but Kristi reported that Grant House (SB City Council member) did mention the VSR Initiative as an opportunity to reduce greenhouse gas emission for our local area and possibly along the CA coast.
- E. Debra shared info from a workshop she attended Monterey called the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Symposium Sanctuary Currents

2013 the title this year: "Change: Observations on the Shifting Ecology of the Sanctuary."

**ADJOURN**