

MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, October 27, 1995
Moss Landing Chamber of Commerce Building
8045 Moss Landing Road
Moss Landing, CA

AGENDA

- 8:30 Coffee and Sign In
- 9:00 Welcome, Call to Order, Approval of September Meeting Minutes
- 9:15 Swearing in of Joe Townsend as the Ports and Harbors Representative
- 9:30 Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda
- 9:45 Presentation: Ocean Acoustic Observatory (OAO) by Dr. Khasrow Lashkari, MBARI
- 10:30 Presentation: Proposed Edward F. Ricketts Underwater Park
- 11:00 Update: State Water Board Ocean Plan
- 11:15 Update: State Mussel Watch Program
- 11:30 Update: Marketing Program for the Sanctuary License Plate
- 12:00 Ed Ueber's Sanctuary Manager's Report
- 12:15 Lunch -- Announcements from Council Members
- 1:00 Discussion: Central Valley Water Reclamation Proposals
- 1:30 Update: Sanctuary Enforcement Plan
- 2:00 Reports from the Working Groups: - Conservation
 - Research
 - Education
- 2:45 Sanctuary Manager's Report :
 Jade, Vessel Traffic Safety, Sanctuary Foundation
- 3:15 Discussion: Cambria Desalination Project
- 3:45 Update: Strategic Planning Committee
- 4:15 Recommendations from the Task Forces:
 Alternative Funding and Economic Development
- 4:30 Adjourn

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MEETING MINUTES

Friday, October 27, 1995
Moss Landing Chamber of Commerce
8045 Moss Landing Road
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The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council met on Friday, October 27, 1995 at the Moss Landing Chamber of Commerce Building in Moss Landing, California. Council members present were:

AMBAG: Katherine Beiers	NOAA Enforcement: Roy Torres
Ruth Vreeland	Harbors: Joe Townsend
CA Resources: Brian Baird	Research: Andrew DeVogelaere
Agriculture: Richard Nutter	(for Greg Cailliet)
At Large: Karin Strasser Kauffman	Business & Industry: Steve Abbott
At Large: Steve Webster	Coastal Commission: Tami Grove
At Large: Not Represented	CA EPA: Marc Del Piero
Coast Guard: Dean Lee	Recreation: Thomas La Hue
Conservation: Rachel Saunders	Fishing: Dave Danbom
Diving: Ed Cooper	Tourism: Ed Brown
Education: Dorris Welch	

The following non-voting members were present as indicated:

Monterey Bay NMS: Terry Jackson	CB/GF NMS: Ed Ueber
Channel Islands: Not Represented	Elkhorn Slough NERR: Steve Kimple

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by the Vice-Chair.

II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The Draft minutes from the September 29, 1995 meeting were approved as presented.

III. SWEARING IN OF PORTS AND HARBORS REPRESENTATIVE

Joe Townsend was formally sworn in as the Sanctuary Advisory Council's Ports and Harbors Representative.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

1) Ed Cooper (Sanctuary Advisory Council-Diving Representative) -- The October issue of Rodales Scuba Diving Magazine lists the MBNMS as one of the world's finest "marine parks". In concurrence with Ed's suggestion, Council members approved a motion to send a letter to the magazine's editor expressing gratitude for the positive coverage of the Sanctuary, but explaining the purpose of a marine sanctuary and its differentiation from a marine park;

2) Jay Murray (local diver) -- expressed his concern about the ATOC project and its potential impact on marine wildlife;

3) Deb Columbe (Managing Writer and Editor of the MBNMS Newsletter) -- announced that the next issue will highlight the work of the Advisory Council and its three working groups;

4) Chief Warrent Officer Attaway (Planning Department, Coast Guard MSO San Francisco) -- announced that the Central Coast Planning Committee is actively working on oil spill prevention and response. The group is reviewing the existing oil spill plan extensively and working to develop initiatives to prevent spills from happening in the first place. Officer Attaway commented that conservationists are under represented on the group and encouraged more public participation. For more information, contact Officer Attaway at (831)437-3884.

IV. PRESENTATION: OCEAN ACOUSTIC OBSERVATORY (OAO) BY DR. KHASROW LASHKARI

The presentation by Dr. Lashkari was postponed until the December 1 meeting.

V. SANCTUARY MANAGER'S REPORT

Terry Jackson provided a report on Sanctuary activities (please see Attachment A). The report also included mention of the following:

... Council members discussed their concern about the seemingly lack of closure from NOAA headquarters in Washington, D.C. on several issues of importance for the Sanctuary. A motion passed to send a letter to the Sanctuaries and Reserves Division (SRD) requesting that the situation be addressed prior to the December 1 meeting;

... Working group chairs were asked if their monthly meetings could be staggered throughout the month rather than scheduling all three for the week prior to the Advisory Council meeting. It is hoped that this will allow a more timely distribution of the meeting minutes.

Ed Ueber reported on activities from the northern end of the Sanctuary. Highlights are as follows:

... Muir Beach has been slated for a restoration project;

... A dredge spoil EIR/EIS will be released the week of December 2, 1995. The report, produced by the State Water Resources Control Board, covers multiple projects and will serve as a long-term management strategy;

... Ed is participating in meetings concerning: the San Francisco cross-town tunnel; plans to recycle the city's wastewater; and options for the Central California Regional Water Recycling Project. In general, people are supportive of recycling, but opposed to ocean discharge;

... There have been meetings to determine the next steps for Pier 1 in San Francisco;

... Half Moon Bay has communicated with Terry, Ed, and Scott Kathey about collaborative efforts to place buoys marking the personal water craft zones. Half Moon Bay would like to be considered for some type of funding to help enforce the regulations; and,

... Ed mentioned that the dredge project at Half Moon Bay is not a threat to the Sanctuary and suggested that this situation be considered as a pilot program for other affected areas along the California coast.

VI. PRESENTATION: PROPOSED EDWARD F. RICKETTS UNDERWATER PARK

Following a presentation by Ed Cooper and Kevin McDonald describing the details of the proposed underwater park, discussion ensued about the various pros and cons of the idea. A motion passed, with one abstention, to send a letter to the Mayors of Pacific Grove and Monterey, stating that the marine park concept is in congruence with the goals and mission of the MBNMS. The letter should also include a statement to the effect that the Advisory Council recognizes the importance of continued research activities in the area that are not detrimental to the environment. To this end, Council members stipulated that an advisory committee be designated to assess the needs for research extraction in the proposed "no take" zone on a case by case basis.

With respect to questions of enforcement for the park, Council members were informed that the area will be under the jurisdiction of the cities of Monterey and Pacific Grove. The California Department of Fish and Game will be the main enforcement agency.

Finally, the Council referred the proposal to the working groups for their recommendations and comments about the park's proposed merits for research, education, and resource protection.

VII. UPDATE: STATE WATER BOARD OCEAN PLAN

Marc Del Piero commented that the State Ocean Plan is the document that sets water quality standards for the State. The issue will be coming before the State Water Resources Control board in the very near future. The Advisory Council requested that Marc provide a copy of the plan to all members.

VIII. UPDATE: STATE MUSSEL WATCH PROGRAM

Following a brief review of the options presented by the subcommittee on the State Mussel Watch Program (SMWP), the Advisory Council passed a motion, with abstentions from the representatives of the regulatory agencies, to approach Senator Henry Mello and Assemblyman Bruce McPherson, to request that they co-author legislation providing long-term funding for the SMWP. Council members suggested that the proposed legislation contain a strong policy statement for the perpetuation of the program. A delegation composed of Karin Strasser Kauffman, Steve Webster, Greg Cailliet, Terry Jackson, and Mark Stephenson will arrange to meet with the two legislators as soon as possible.

IX. UPDATE: MARKETING PROGRAM FOR THE SANCTUARY LICENSE PLATE

Mike Wallace from the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), provided an update on the marketing plan for the Sanctuary license plates. Highlights included:

... AMBAG has received 1,094 paid applications to date;

NOTE: 44% of the applications are for personalized plates which generate more money than regular plates.

... AMBAG is working hard to secure more "fleet purchases" similar to the Pebble Beach Company's purchase of the license plate for all of their company vehicles;

... Henry Mello sent a letter to the California Automobile Dealers Association asking them to help promote the plates on new car sales;

... Environmental organizations in the area have placed announcements of the plate in their newsletters;

... The internet is being used as a method of promoting the license plates; and,

... Council members viewed an advertisement of the plates in the Fall issue of Motorland Magazine.

X. DISCUSSION: CENTRAL VALLEY WATER RECLAMATION PROPOSALS

Discussion centered on the Central California Regional Water Recycling Project and approval of the Advisory Council's draft comments on the project's Feasibility Study.

The draft comments on the proposal, due by November 1, 1995, were approved as presented with abstentions from the representatives of the regulatory agencies. In essence, the comments supported water recycling projects, but stated strong opposition to alternatives involving the discharge of agricultural wastewater into the ocean.

Council members were reminded of the magnitude of this project and the fact that it is the biggest water reclamation project in the history of California with the potential to solve many of the State's water problems. However, some of the proposed alternatives may have serious repercussions for the MBNMS.

There will be a public meeting concerning the project on November 6, 1995 at the Salinas Community Center from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend as it will be an appropriate forum for comments on the alternatives.

XI. UPDATE: SANCTUARY ENFORCEMENT PLAN

The Advisory Council's Coast Guard Representative, Lieutenant Commander Dean Lee, provided a report on his efforts to develop a viable enforcement plan for the MBNMS. He provided Council members with a packet of information containing copies of Memorandums of Understanding (MOU's) on enforcement from the Olympic Coast NMS, the Florida Keys NMS, and the Stellwagen Bank NMS, as well as a draft MOU for the MBNMS prepared by Commander Jim Hall and a letter by Terry Jackson to Douglas Wheeler, Secretary, California Resources Agency. (As the material is lengthy and was provided to all Council members at the meeting, it is not included here as an attachment. For a copy of the reference material, please contact Jane DeLay at (831) 647-4246)

Dean commented that he preferred the Florida Keys NMS agreement as it incorporated the state's resources for enforcement. He will be meeting with Terry in the next couple of weeks to discuss procedural details for the Monterey Bay NMS. In the meanwhile, Dean will continue to work on the MBNMS MOU, which will include: identification of parties responsible for the costs of enforcement; defining areas of jurisdiction; and, incorporating resources already in the area. Dean concluded his presentation by remarking that he will make every attempt to incorporate into the MOU verbiage that

suits everyone's needs.

Brian Baird added that he has received internal responses regarding this proposal and stated that the Department of Fish and Game and the Department of Parks and Recreation are ready to discuss the proposal with Sanctuary representatives. Brian indicated that a second meeting should be held with all enforcement agencies to discuss the proposal submitted by the Coast Guard.

XII. REPORTS FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

Conservation Working Group (CWG) -- Rachel Saunders provided the following highlights of the group's activities:

The CWG met on Tuesday, October 17 at Elkhorn Slough NERR. The major topic of discussion was the issue of personalized watercraft use in the Sanctuary and options for enforcement of the regulations. Representatives from the industry attended the meeting and basically stated that they were not interested in helping to enforce regulations they consider to be arbitrary. However, they indicated they would be willing to cooperate with an education program if Sanctuary management would be willing to readdress the regulations and the zones as they currently stand. There will be an additional meeting with industry representatives on November 9 from 4:30 p.m. in Moss Landing to further discuss the options.

The next meeting of the CWG is scheduled for Tuesday, November 28 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Moss Landing Harbor District Office.

Agenda topics will include: approval of comments for the Sanctuary Research Plan; discussion of the proposed underwater park; and, a discussion of the Central California Regional Water Recycling Project.

Research Activity Panel (RAP) -- Dr. Andrew DeVogelaere, Research Coordinator for the MBNMS, provided the working group's report on behalf of Greg Cailliet who was unable to attend the meeting. The RAP met on Friday, October 20 from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the NOAA Pacific Grove Facility. Highlights of the meeting included the following:

... A presentation on the Cambria Desalination Plant project (written comments from the RAP will be available in mid-November);

... A discussion of research proposal priorities for future research cruises;

... An announcement of regional efforts to have the MBNMS designated as a marine All-Taxa Biodiversity Site (ATBI). The designation would bring money and research into the area;

... A proposal to host a one day seminar in Monterey for participants in the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) conference scheduled for June 1996 at San Jose State University;

... The grant for 75k to conduct research on marine mammals in the three northern California Sanctuaries has been awarded to Dan Costa, Jim Harvey, Don Croll, and Terry Williams. The research will evaluate critical habitats and feeding behaviors of Blue whales, Humpback whales, Pacific Whitesided dolphins, and Harbor porpoises.

The next RAP meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 8 at Hopkins Marine Station from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Sanctuary Education Panel (SEP) --Dorris Welch provided highlights from the SEP's

last three meetings.

... The SEP met in September for a well-attended all-day retreat to examine goals for the coming year;

... A second planning meeting was held on October 26 to further define and prioritize the goals;

... SEP members have identified the need for more marketing and improved public relations for the Sanctuary and have decided to look for PR opportunities and alternative funding sources in all education programs;

... The target audience of Sanctuary education programs has been redefined and school based projects have been clumped together;

... The SEP has decided to change the function of their monthly meetings from an information exchange into more of a working session;

... The Sanctuary Science Curriculum Unit about the MBNMS is completed and teachers who participated in the Long Marine Lab Teacher's Workshop on October 21, 1995 will be testing the curriculum and making the final revisions before it goes to print next year;

... The Sanctuary sponsored two teachers for the UC Berkeley MARE Program who will be working to incorporate education about the sanctuary into their schools;

... A list of education resources will soon be printed and distributed;

... The SEP is working on the language for the personal watercraft regulations' brochures and signage;

... SEP members have begun work on a book about the various habitats and species contained in the Sanctuary. The book will also address the relationships, interactions, and impacts human populations have on these critical habitats. Publication is tentatively scheduled for May 1996;

... The Sanctuary Symposium is scheduled for March 8-9, 1996 at the Naval Postgraduate School. The SEP will be concentrating on putting together a Sanctuary education program for the event.

The next SEP meeting will be on Thursday, November 16 from 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at the Elkhorn Slough NERR. The focus of the meeting will be on the Sanctuary Symposium.

XIII. DISCUSSION: CAMBRIA DESALINATION PROJECT

A delegation from Cambria consisting of: Mr. Steve Sylvester, District Engineer for North Coast Engineering and Project Manager; Rick Ware, from Coastal Resources Management; and Roger Lyon, from Lyon and Carmel, gave a presentation on the proposed Cambria Desalination Plant.

The project is important to the Sanctuary for a number of reasons, among them being:

- ... It will be the first NPDES permit issued for the area since being designated as a National Marine Sanctuary;
- ... It will be the first brine discharger for the Sanctuary; and,
- ... It will be the first construction in the Sanctuary since its designation.

Advisory Council members asked few questions and remarked that it was premature to make any recommendations about the project at this time.

XIV. UPDATE: STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Strategic Planning Committee has drafted an action plan for a workshop on improving Public Relations efforts for the Sanctuary. After review of several dates, Council members tentatively scheduled the session for Friday, January 12 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at a place to be determined. The Strategic Planning Committee hopes to arrange for NOAA Public Relations officers from Washington, D.C. to attend the workshop.

Council members are asked to review the draft action plan carefully and to send any comments to Jane DeLay at the Sanctuary office via fax, (831) 647-4250, prior to the next Advisory Council meeting on December 1.

XV. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TASK FORCES: ALTERNATIVE FUNDING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Karin Strasser Kauffman reported on the recent activities and recommendations from the Task Forces. Highlights are as follows:

Economic Task Force:

... A follow-up session discussing partnership opportunities between the Sanctuary and the surrounding business community will be held on Wednesday, November 15 from 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn in Santa Cruz. Please call David Leland at (831) 761-2745 for more information.

... The task force will be working to determine and quantify the economic value of the Sanctuary to the surrounding community and recommended the following methods for obtaining required information:

- 1) utilize graduate students to help collect and analyze economic data; and,
- 2) ask Assemblyman McPherson to use the State Ocean Plan and the State research bureau to look at economic statistics from the Central Coast. (Karin spoke with Assemblyman McPherson during the lunch break and gained his commitment to help the Council get the information requested.)

Alternative Funding task force:

The Task Force is working to set up a Board of Directors for the Sanctuary Foundation and to develop incentives for the license plate program.

XVI. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Two issues of importance and time sensitive were approved as additional discussion items to the day's agenda. They were as follows:

1) A discussion of the Clean Water Act Grant Application submitted by the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG). AMBAG requested that the Sanctuary Advisory Council send a letter in support of the project and that the letter be received by AMBAG no later than October 31, 1995. A motion to send the letter was passed with members from the regulatory agencies abstaining. Council members also directed that the correspondence state the Advisory Council's recognition of this project as one of many and that there are others that have not been seen by this body. The letter should also mention that the Advisory Council wishes to be included on the project's Technical Advisory Committees.

2) The Advisory Council also voted to send a letter of support for the Bay Protection and Toxic Clean-up Program to the State Water Resources Control Board Bay prior to their meeting on November 2, 1995. Members of the regulatory agencies abstained from voting on this issue.

XVII. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

1) The Elkhorn Slough NERR will be undergoing its 312 evaluation between November 13-17, 1995. This is an opportunity for NOAA to come and visit the site to determine if the program is accomplishing what it is intended to. There will be a public meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the visitors center on November 17. Council members are encouraged to attend and make positive comments about the reserve and its work.

2) This months issue of Rodales Scuba Diving Magazine features an article about eco-heros and quotes Leon Panetta, Sam Farr and Rachel Saunders.

3) Innersapce '95 had a positive economic impact on the Monterey Peninsula. At least 3,000 people attended. The diving exposition will be held in Monterey on an annual basis.

The meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. DeLay
SAC Coordinator

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