

MEMORANDUM FOR: Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council
FROM: Paul Michel, Superintendent
SUBJECT: West Coast Sanctuaries Priorities FY13

In preparation for the October 18 SAC meeting in Cambria and the agenda item regarding the West Coast SAC Chairs meeting, I have prepared the following summary of West Coast Priorities for FY13, information that was shared with the SAC Chairs. Please consider any advice you might provide or specific interests. It is a very long list of priorities, so any comments on relative priority would be appreciated by the West Coast Regional Office.

West Coast Priorities FY13 (not in order of priority):

- 1 Deep Sea Coral/EFH.** Improved info on the location, abundance and diversity of DSC; improved protection of DSC; improved awareness of DSC role in ecosystem dynamics
- 2 Whale Ship Strikes.** Coordinated preparedness; Transfer of CINMS knowledge and protocols to Central Coast; Better protection of whales.
- 3 Coordinating Enforcement.** Increased enforcement presence in sanctuaries; Successful prosecution of sanctuary enforcement cases.
- 4 Overflight Rule Implementation.** Improved awareness of overflight rules in aviation community, improved protection of sensitive seabird and marine mammal habitats through improved compliance with overflight rules.
- 5 Spill Preparedness.** Info sharing. Better preparedness.
- 6 Complete Long Range Interpretive Plan (LRIP).** Better identification of interpretive opportunities and partnerships.
- 7 Maritime Heritage Program Implementation** Better prioritization of submerged maritime resource projects in 5-year and 10-year timeframe across sites.
- 8 NMFS-ONMS Communications.** Better integration and coordination
- 9 Ocean Acidification Action Plan Implementation.**
- 10 Management Plan 5-Year Updates.** Clear national and regional strategy for updating management plans.
- 11 Introduced Species Regulation Change.** Finalize rule.
- 12 Consider Boundary Expansion for MBNMS “donut hole”.**
- 13 Abalone Recovery (white & black).** Prevent extinction of white abalone and help recover black abalone
- 14 Socioeconomics.** Plan to characterize socio-economics of WC sites.
- 15 CI & MB: Recreational Fishing Tournament.** Improved partnership/relationship with recreational fishing community.
- 16 Sentinel Sites** TBD
- 17 Climate Change.** Improved ability to identify resources at risk from climate change and develop appropriate adaptation and mitigation strategies.
- 18 Sustainable Fishing Communities.** Improved knowledge across region of site specific projects (lessons learned, etc) that foster better relationship with fishing communities.
- 19 Tsunami marine debris** Improved understanding of significance of tsunami marine debris and potential impacts on sanctuary resources; development of appropriate response strategies to minimize impacts to sanctuary resources.