



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Sanctuary Council Diver Newsletter

Diver
June 2015

Dear MBNMS,

The June Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting was an added meeting this year to finalize the charter protocol revisions for the Advisory Council. Review of the Charters and Protocols is an essential advisory board function and requires quite a bit of extra time and resources to complete. The Sanctuary Advisory Board functions as a communication tool for MBNMS staff to the public. Providing feedback and input to Sanctuary Management Staff. The Charters and Protocols meeting is a review process used to improve communications from the public to the Advisory Board and eventually to Management staff. Both Phil and I have experienced times when the current procedural requirements became a liability to the group as opposed to an asset in the communication process. The current draft revisions have addressed many of these potential issues we have experienced.

We would also like to give the diving community a heads up on our term limits. In a couple of years both Phil and I will term limit off the Sanctuary Advisory Council. If you are an active diver, connected with fellow divers, and can donate your time the Sanctuary Advisory Council this is a worth while public servant opportunity. If interested and want to know more you may want to consider attending some of the meetings and see the constituent communication process in action. We are happy to share our experiences and lessons learned along the way.

As always Phil and I are happy to attend your dive club meeting and present information about the Sanctuary Advisory Board and diving with your dive clubs and stores. Give us a call or an email with lead time and we will make the date.

Warm Regards,
Brian and Phil

Broken Piece of Pipeline Responsible for Santa Barbara Oil Spill

In This Issue

[Oil Pipeline in Santa Barbara](#)

[Cenotes in Mexico](#)

[El Nino Arrives](#)

[NOAA Expansion](#)

[Sea Star Wasting Disease](#)

[Replacement Camera](#)

[Marine Debris Fund](#)

[ARMS retrieval](#)

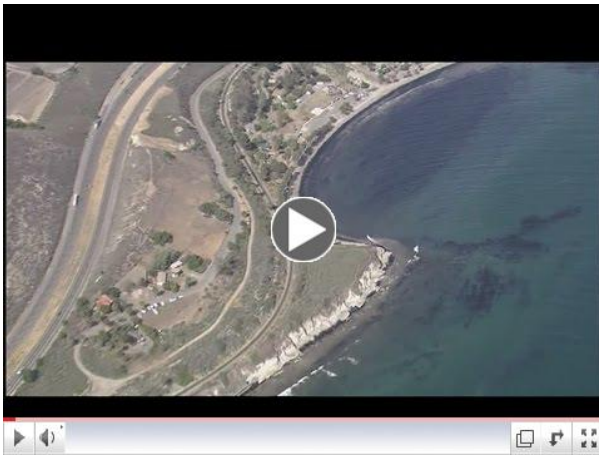
[Kelp Samples](#)

[Chamber Funding](#)

PMNM meets with Oiwi TV on Marine Debris Footage for World Wide Voyage



On February 9, PMNM Education Coordinator Andy Collins met with the president of Oiwi TV to review marine debris footage from the Monument that could be used in concert with Hokulea's voyage to Australia next month as part of the Polynesian Voyaging Society's (PVS) World Wide Voyage (WWV). The PVS media team is developing partnerships with local conservation organizations along the WWV route and highlighting global issues like marine



Broken piece of pipeline responsible for Santa Barbara oil spill to be removed, inspected Officials from Plains All American Pipeline say they hope the broken section of a pipeline that spilled oil along the California Coast can be removed for investigation by Tuesday. The company on Monday downgraded the amount of oil that may have spilled. The new estimate of the worst-case volume of oil released is 101,000 gallons. That's about 4,200 gallons less than previously thought. Plains All American is still measuring the spill as it cleans up along the Santa Barbara County coastline and recovers oil from the pipeline. Oil blackened area beaches and created a 10-square-mile slick in the ocean after the onshore pipeline ruptured May 19. [More information](#)

Cenotes Mexico by Berkley White



Cenotes Mexico - Canon 5D Mark III Underwater Video

Just in case you have not experienced the Cenotes in Mexico, this video should make a difference on choosing your next dive destination. I try to explain to my non diver friends and family my cenote and cave experiences. Words simply cannot describe the experience. Every time I have made this trip I see so much more and find myself in another dimension some where else on the planet. This is an amazing video just had to share it from Berkley White at Backscatter

Elusive El Nino Arrives

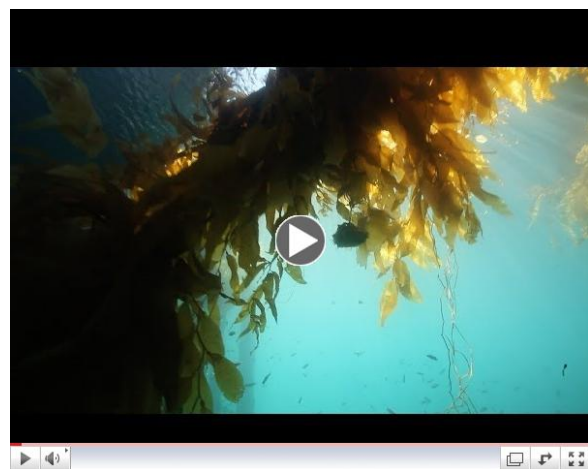
debris. The footage, which was collected by NOAA's Marine Debris team during last year's expedition to the Monument, will help show how remote areas and coral reefs are impacted by debris. The plan is to work with local media outlets in Australia to compare similar impacts there and to deliver messages on what can be done about the global marine debris problem. Working with partners to promote the World Wide Voyage and raise awareness of the global issues of marine debris.

ARMS retrieved from kelp forest in Monterey Bay



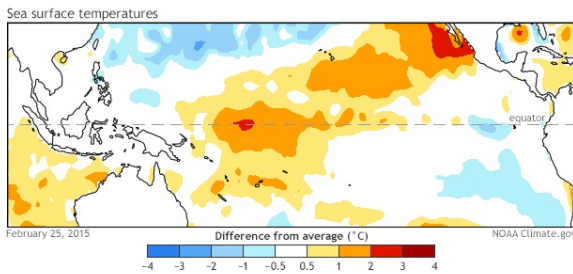
On January 29th and 30th, SIMoN staff (Chad King and Dr. Steve Lonhart) retrieved nine Autonomous Reef Monitoring Structures (ARMS). These stacks of settling plates are used extensively in coral reef ecosystems, and only recently expanded into colder waters. ARMS provide "a systematic, consistent and comparable method to monitor cryptic reef diversity over space and time, and information from the ARMS will provide managers with a tool to assess this diversity along with the effects of climate change and ocean acidification." Dr. Jon Geller (Moss Landing Marine Labs) and his graduate students photographed each plate, scraped them clean, homogenized the material, and then will extract samples for genomic analyses. To our knowledge, ARMS have not been used in warm temperate kelp forest ecosystems to date. The results of this effort will increase our knowledge of cryptic infaunal diversity and allow us to assess whether ARMS are suitable tools in colder water environments.

Latest samples of kelp collected for Kelp Watch Program



Kelp Watch 2014

Latest samples of kelp collected for Kelp Watch Program collected for Kelp Watch Program On February 4th Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) staff received kelp samples from two University of California Natural Reserves (Rancho Marino in Cambria and Big Creek in Big Sur) within MBNMS. Don Canestro collected samples from Cambria and assisted with small boat operations to collect samples at Big Creek with Dr. Steve



Sea surface temperature departures from average (based on 1981-2010) at the end of February 2015. NOAA map by Emily Becker, Climate Prediction Center.

The long-anticipated El Niño has finally arrived, according to forecasters with NOAA's Climate Prediction Center. In their updated monthly outlook released today, forecasters issued an El Niño Advisory to declare the arrival of the ocean-atmospheric phenomenon marked by warmer-than-average sea surface temperatures in the central Pacific Ocean near the equator. Due to the weak strength of the El Niño, widespread or significant global weather pattern impacts are not anticipated. However, certain impacts often associated with El Niño may appear this spring in parts of the Northern Hemisphere, such as wetter-than-normal conditions along the U.S. Gulf Coast.

NOAA Expands Cordell Bank and Farallones National Marine Sanctuary

NOAA expands Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones national marine sanctuaries off northern California. Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones national marine sanctuaries off northern California will both more than double in size following a final rule released today by NOAA. The expansion will help to protect the region's marine and coastal habitats, biological resources and special ecological features. Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, located 42 miles north of San Francisco, will expand from 529 square miles to 1,286 square miles. Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary will expand from 1,282 square miles to 3,295 square miles of ocean and coastal waters.

Sea Star Wasting Disease survey protocols tested in local kelp forest

Sea Star Wasting Disease survey protocols tested in local kelp forest. On January 21st, Dr. Steve Lonhart collaborated with science divers from UC Santa Cruz and Moss Landing Marine Labs to test methods related to sea star wasting disease (SSWD). Researchers in central California, and especially MBNMS, are investigating the ecological consequences of SSWD on both the decimated sea star populations and their prey populations.

Lonhart. These kelp samples will be tested for radioactive isotopes of Cesium, which is one of several radionuclides released from the tsunami-damaged nuclear reactor in Fukushima, Japan. Dried kelp will be shipped to lead investigator Dr. Steven Manley at CSU Long Beach for processing, then tested at UC Berkeley. Kelp Watch is a collaborative scientific campaign designed to determine the extent of possible radionuclide contamination of our kelp forest ecosystem from seawater arriving from Fukushima in 2015.

Chamber Fund Rasing

Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber

Monterey Bay has become a premier diving destination, offering some of the most beautiful and pristine diving areas in the country. The City of Pacific Grove, on the Monterey Peninsula, has provided medical treatment to injured divers with its hyperbaric chamber since 1963. While the City of Pacific Grove provides for many of the chamber's operation needs, the facility needs additional fiscal support to reopen and continue to offer these important medical treatments. Please consider a donation to help this much needed, important resource for the local dive community.

[Donate to the Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber Fund](#)



[Donate Now!](#)

Donations to this exciting project can be made online using a credit card or a PayPal account. The credit card transaction will be securely handled by PayPal and you do not need a PayPal account to make a credit card donation. At the end of the credit card transaction you will be presented with an option to print out a receipt for your donation. Your tax-deductible donation to the Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber Fund will go directly towards the reopening of the facility and its operations. Payment can also be made by check mailed to:

Monterey Bay Sanctuary
Foundation



Scientists Find Out What's Been Killing Millions Of Starfish

Partners with MBNMS are developing a monitoring program to track recruitment and growth of sea star populations in Monterey Bay, as well as targeted surveys for key species of invertebrates. The ecological fallout from the widespread decimation of sea star populations remains a mystery. Efforts to characterize populations of predators and prey are key to understanding trophic dynamics in kelp forests and this project is a key first step.

Replacement camera successfully tested during dive operations



On February 20th, Unit Diving Supervisor Dr. Steve Lonhart and NOAA divers LT Bryan Begun (WCR office), Lilli Ferguson (CBNMS), and Carliane Johnson (contractor) successfully completed several dives along the Monterey Breakwater.

Conditions were excellent, with no swell or surge, 25-30 ft visibility, and water temperatures of 59 F at depth. During the first dive, a large nudibranch (*Dendronotus iris*) was disturbed, and as part of its general escape response, 'swam' up from the bottom about 8 ft, then drifted down to a new location. Lonhart was testing a replacement camera body (the original 300D failed and Canon could not repair it) in the UW housing system used to capture macro photos. Below are some of the photos of the nudibranch. NOAA divers are required to make a minimum of three dives per quarter to maintain dive proficiency. By tagging along while testing a replacement camera system, three divers were able to log valuable time underwater.

MBNMS SAC STAFF

CONNECT WITH YOUR SANCTUARY

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council is your voice to the Sanctuary Management Staff.

99 Pacific Street, Suite 455 E
Monterey, CA 93940

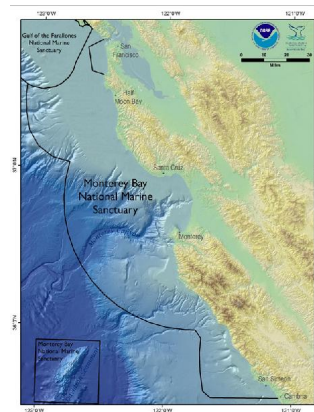
If you have any questions, please email
info@mbnmsf.org

Prepared by Brian and Phil, Sanctuary Advisory Council
Diving Representatives

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Featured Article

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) is a Federally protected marine area offshore of California's central coast.

Stretching from Marin to Cambria, the MBNMS encompasses a shoreline **length of 276 miles and 6,094** square miles of ocean. Supporting one of the world's most diverse marine ecosystems, it is home to numerous mammals, seabirds, fishes, invertebrates and plants in a remarkably productive coastal environment. The MBNMS was established for the purpose of resource protection, research, education, and public use of this national treasure.

The MBNMS is part of a system of 13 National Marine Sanctuaries and one marine national monument, administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Featured Article

If you have questions or input please contact your
local representative

Agriculture

Mr. Kirk Schmidt (831) 761-
8644 kschmidt@ccwqp.org
Ms. Kristina Beal (805) 466-2288
kris@vineyardteam.org

Business and Industry

Ms. Jessica Grigsby (831) 479-1121
jessica@kayakconnection.com
Ms. Krista Hammond (831) 332-7188
krista@santacruzseaglass.com

Commercial Fishing

Ms. Kathy Fosmark (831) 373-
5238 kfosmark@aol.com
Captain Jim Moser (831) 246-1408
tradewind39@gmail.com

Community Representatives (At Large Representatives)

Mr. James Panetta jimmy.panetta@gmail.com
Mr. Dan Haifley (831) 465-9390
dhaifley@oneillseaodyssey.org
Ms. Cynthia Mathews (831) 423-8977
mathews@cruzio.com
Ms. Elizabeth (Tucker) Hirsch (908) 256-9304
tucker.hirsch@gmail.com
Ms. Margaret Webb (805) 927-2987
pjwebb@inreach.com
Mr. Gary Hoffmann gqhwd@yahoo.com

Conservation

Dr. Geoffrey Shester, Ph.D. (831) 643-9266
gshester@oceana.org
Alternate Open Seat

Diving

Capt. Philip Sammet (831) 915-6600
captdeep@redshift.com
Capt. Brian Nelson (408) 483-
8721 brian@pcscuba.com

Education

Seat Open
Ms. Amity Sandage (831) 466-5711
asandage@santacruz.k12.ca.us

Recreation (Water Sports)

Mr. Gary Pezzi (831) 440-5200 sta2bd@aol.com
Mr. Barton Selby (650) 245-
1974 bartongselby@gmail.com

Recreational Fishing

Mr. Richard Hughett (831) 757-
5709 rlh@redshift.com
Mr. Robert Chatham (831) 747-4274
chathamintl@msn.com

Research

Dr. James Lindholm, Ph.D. (831) 582-
4662 jlindholm@csumb.edu
Dr. John Hunt, Ph.D. (831) 566-
0044 jwhunt@ucdavis.edu

Tourism

Mr. Michael Bekker (831) 649-2603
mbekker@canneryrow.com
Mr. Robert Massaro (831) 649-6544
bmassaro@bostrommanagement.com

Quick Links

[Monterey Bay National Marine
Sanctuary](#)

[Advisory Council Web Page](#)

[Marine Mammal Center - Moss
Landing](#)

[Council Meeting Agendas](#)

[Council Meeting Minutes](#)

Harbors

Moss Landing Harbor
Ms. Linda McIntyre - Alternate - (831) 633-5417
mcintyre@mosslandingharbor.dst.ca.us

Pillar Point Harbor
Mr. Peter Grenell - Alternate -
(650) 583-4400 harbordistrict@smharbor.com

Monterey Harbor
Mr. Steve Scheiblaue - Primary -
831) 646-3950 scheibla@monterey.org

Santa Cruz Harbor
Ms. Lisa Ekers - Alternate -
(831) 475-6161 lekers@santacruzharbor.org

There are additional non-voting and supporting members of the Advisory Council. Go to [Advisory Council Complete listing and Information](#)

2015 SAC Meeting Schedule

The 2015 Schedule is not yet published on the MBNMS website. But here it is, please mark your calendars and see if you could attend a meeting.

June 19, 2015, Friday
Carmel

August 19, 2015, Wednesday
Half Moon Bay

October 23, 2015, Friday
Cambria

December 11, 2015, Friday
Monterey

Sincerely,

MBNMS Advisory Council
Monterey Bay NMS Advisory Council

Monterey Bay NMS Advisory Council, 99 Pacific Street, Suite 455a, Monterey, CA 93940

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by brian@pcscuba.com in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today