

**MBNMS Research Activity Panel  
Meeting Summary  
March 8, 2024**

**Host:** Fiorenza Micheli – Marine Conservation Biology (Hopkins Marine Station)

**Location:** Virtual Meeting (information available upon request; erica.burton@noaa.gov)

**Date:** Friday, March 8, 2024; 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Members:**

	<b>Discipline</b>	<b>Primary/ Alternate</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>
X	Research Coordinator		DeVogelaere, Andrew	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
	Biological Oceanography	primary	Ruhl, Henry	Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System
	Biological Oceanography	alternate	Kudela, Raphael	University of California, Santa Cruz
X	Deep-Sea Environment	primary	Cailliet, Greg	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (retired)
X	Deep-Sea Environment	alternate	<b>Haddock, Steve</b> †	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
X	Estuarine Environment	primary	Clark, Ross	Central Coast Wetlands Group
	Estuarine Environment	alternate	Wasson, Kerstin	Elkhorn Slough NERR and Foundation
	Fisheries	primary	Lindley, Steve	NOAA Fisheries Service
X	Fisheries	alternate	Owens, Brian	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
	Marine & Coastal Geology	primary		
X	Marine & Coastal Geology	alternate	Wagner, Amy	California State University, Sacramento
	Marine Conservation Biology	primary	Goldbogen, Jeremy	Hopkins Marine Station
X	Marine Conservation Biology	alternate	Micheli, Fiorenza	Hopkins Marine Station
X	Nearshore Environment	primary	<b>Southall, Brandon</b> *	Southall Environmental Associates, Inc.
	Nearshore Environment	alternate	Carr, Mark	University of California, Santa Cruz
X	Physical Oceanography	primary	Orescanin, Mara	Naval Postgraduate School
	Physical Oceanography	alternate		
	Shelf & Slope Environment	primary	Lindholm, James	California State University, Monterey Bay
	Shelf & Slope Environment	alternate		
X	Social Sciences	primary	Pomeroy, Carrie	University of California, Santa Cruz
	Social Sciences	alternate	Scorse, Jason	Middlebury Institute of International Studies
X	Water Quality	primary	Hunt, John	University of California, Davis
X	Water Quality	alternate	Hoover, Bridget	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

\*Sanctuary Advisory Council Member: Research (Primary)

†Sanctuary Advisory Council Member: Research (Alternate)

**RAP Coordinator:**

X	Burton, Erica	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
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**GUESTS:**

Brown, Jennifer	ECOS Consulting, LLC
Chiaroni, Emma	UCSC / Penn State, Graduate Student
Cooper, Kacy	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Crandall, Greg	MBNMS Advisory Council
De Beukelaer, Sophie	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Mohn, Libby	California Sea Grant Fellow (MBNMS)
Russell, Tamara	Dr. Nancy Foster Scholar and SIO UCSD

**CONSENT ITEMS**

Introductions/Modifications to the Agenda (Brandon Southall)

- Erica Burton announced attendance record for Carrie Pomeroy, marking 100<sup>th</sup> RAP meeting, and thanked Carrie for RAP service.
- Bridget Hoover is retiring from MBNMS (and RAP) at end of March 2024.

**HOST PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION**

Hopkins Marine Station Research and Institutional Update (Fiorenza Micheli)

- Fiorenza provided an update on recent changes to Hopkins Marine Station facilities and programs, including:
  - [Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability](#)
  - [Oceans Department](#)
  - Boatworks (lecture hall upgrades)
  - Small boats fleet
  - Center of Cellular & Molecular Diversity (Director Christopher Lowe)
  - New Faculty
  - [Synchro](#)

**ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE**

Summary of February Advisory Council Meeting (Brandon Southall)

- For full meeting minutes, see: <https://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/sacma.html>

Research Community Newsletter (Steve Haddock / Brandon Southall)

- Steve and Brandon recommended and initiated new Slack workspace (messaging application), “Monterey Bay Marine Research”.
- Recommended posts include internships, research cruises, field sampling, and conferences.
- RAP members are encouraged to join and try out the new Slack workspace, and share Slack link with members of their lab or institution. This is considered a soft-launch.
- At June RAP meeting, RAP members will discuss user experience and potential wider distribution.
- **ACTION**: Steve will write Slack workspace description and tips, and Erica will share with RAP members via email.

**PRESENTATION REQUESTED BY RAP**

Spatial and Temporal Patterns of Seabirds at-sea in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (Tamara Russell / Dr. Nancy Foster Scholar and SIO UCSD)

- Tammy provided update on her PhD research at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, including:
  - Spatial patterns of seabirds in the California Current Ecosystem; and
  - Changes in seabird abundance and community composition within west coast national marine sanctuaries
- First chapter is published: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmarsys.2023.103887>
- Next steps include:
  - Temporal patterns manuscript
  - Summary report of both chapters and NMS focused figures
  - Thesis defense in May or July, 2024

**SANCTUARY RESEARCH UPDATE**

ONMS Memorial Garden – Dr. John Pearse (Andrew DeVogelaere)

- Andrew provided background information on the ONMS Memorial Garden in Key West, Florida, and the 2024 dedication to Dr. John Pearse.
- For more information see: [https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/news/features/memorial\\_garden/](https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/news/features/memorial_garden/)

**QUICK UPDATES ON NEW HIRES AT INSTITUTIONS, AND FACILITY UPDATES**

- No decisions or actions

**SUGGESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- June meeting:
  - White Shark public education (Jason Scorse)
  - Slack workspace user experience (Steve Haddock and Brandon Southall)
  - Advisory Council’s Kelp Working Group update (Libby Mohn and Andrew DeVogelaere)
- Student Capstone on Human Dimension on kelp restoration at Tankers Reef at Monterey and Caspar Cove at Mendocino (suggested by C.Pomeroy)

**ED RICKETTS AWARD AND LECTURE (RAP MEMBERS ONLY)**

2024 Nominations Discussion (Erica Burton)

- RAP members held closed session to discuss the 2024 Ricketts Award nominations.
- **ACTION**: Erica will send voting instructions via email.

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**Future Agenda Items (running list):**

- MBA’s Conservation and Science Program update
- MPAs as monitors/buffers of climate change (e.g., recent OPC presentation at SAC; Micheli’s recent newspaper article)
- Update on seal bomb issue (requested by J.Scorse)
- WATER QUALITY UPDATES:
  - Update on nitrogen loading in local watersheds (by Holly Bowers/Ross Clark; initially presented March 2022 RAP meeting)
  - Trends in Benthic Community Composition in Monterey Bay: 2001 – 2020; 20-year time series of water and sediment quality monitoring by CCLEAN (requested by J.Hunt)

- SOCIAL SCIENCE TOPICS
  - Jason Scorse: White Shark public education (June 2024)
  - Carrie Pomeroy: Collaborative kelp research, and Dungeness and rock crab distributions
- OFFSHORE WIND UPDATES:
  - Future updates on offshore wind energy (requested by J.Scorse)
  - More offshore wind energy and mapping fishing grounds (requested by C.Pomeroy)
  - Could include recent “Winds of Change” and/or summary of upcoming briefings at CA Coastal Commission, including risk assessment and effects of wind deployments on upwelling (Brandon Southall, Grace Chang, Kaus Ragukumar could be speakers)
- KELP UPDATES:
  - Funded project on kelp as ecological-social systems in Monterey and Mendocino areas (C.Pomeroy and M.Carr)
  - Keith Rootsart (Diving representative on Advisory Council) would like to present on kelp restoration efforts
  - CDFW kelp management by Dr. Kristen Elmore (Brian Owens willing to invite)
- eDNA sampling in proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary (Steve Palumbi, Hopkins Marine Station)

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**2024 RAP Meeting Schedule**

*(Quarterly meetings, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of month)*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Host / Research Update</b>	<b>Location</b>
March 8	Micheli	Virtual Meeting
June 14	Scorse	Virtual Meeting
September 13	Wagner	Virtual Meeting
December 13	Southall	