

**MBNMS Research Activity Panel
Meeting Summary
September 10, 2021**

Host: Henry Ruhl – Biological Oceanography (Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System)

Location: Virtual Meeting

Date: Friday, September 10, 2021; 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Members:

	Discipline	Primary/ Alternate	Name	Institution
X	Research Coordinator		DeVogelaere, Andrew	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	Biological Oceanography	primary	Ruhl, Henry	Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System
X	Biological Oceanography	alternate	Kudela, Raphael	University of California, Santa Cruz
X	Deep-Sea Environment	primary	Cailliet, Greg	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (retired)
	Deep-Sea Environment	alternate	Haddock, Steve †	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
	Estuarine Environment	primary	Clark, Ross	Central Coast Wetlands Group
	Estuarine Environment	alternate	Wasson, Kerstin	Elkhorn Slough NERR and Foundation
X	Fisheries	primary	Lindley, Steve	NOAA Fisheries Service
X	Fisheries	alternate	Owens, Brian	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
	Marine & Coastal Geology	primary	Golden, Nadine	United States Geological Survey
X	Marine & Coastal Geology	alternate	Wagner, Amy	California State University, Sacramento
	Marine Conservation Biology	primary	Goldbogen, Jeremy	Hopkins Marine Station
	Marine Conservation Biology	alternate	Micheli, Fiorenza	Hopkins Marine Station
X	Nearshore Environment	primary	Southall, Brandon	Southall Environmental Associates, Inc.
	Nearshore Environment	alternate	Carr, Mark	University of California, Santa Cruz
X	Physical Oceanography	primary	Cheriton, Olivia	United States Geological Survey
X	Physical Oceanography	alternate	Orescanin, Mara	Naval Postgraduate School
	Shelf & Slope Environment	primary	Lindholm, James	California State University, Monterey Bay
X	Shelf & Slope Environment	alternate	Sogard, Susan	NOAA Fisheries Service (retired)
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

Behl, Robert	Monterey Marine Innovation Project
Brown, Jennifer	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Lea, Robert	California Academy of Sciences
Mazurek, Robert	California Marine Sanctuary Foundation
Uttal, Lisa	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Wooninck, Lisa	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

CONSENT ITEMS

Introductions/Modifications to the Agenda (John Hunt)

- New RAP Member, Amy Wagner, introduced herself and provided brief summary of her research interests, including paleo-climate of greater bay area, and long-term changes to California current upwelling system.
- Lisa Wooninck, MBNMS Acting Superintendent, added as speaker for agenda item - SAC update

HOST PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

CeNCOOS: Information Solutions to Power Healthy and Prosperous Oceanic, Coastal and Estuarine Communities (Henry Ruhl)

- Henry provided overview of CeNCOOS, including: staff; vision, mission & strategy; and projected activities based on funding levels.
- He also shared several focus areas including: CeNCOOS data portal; MBON; Imaging Flow Cytobot network; various curated data views for MPA and climate data; and white shark acoustic tracking.
- For more information, see:
 - <https://www.cencoos.org/strategic-plan/>
 - <https://data.cencoos.org>

SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

MBNMS Office Update and Summary of August Advisory Council Meetings (Lisa Wooninck/MBNMS and John Hunt)

- Lisa Wooninck (Acting Superintendent, MBNMS) provided an MBNMS office update; topics included:
 - Slowing of vessels to protect whales
 - Climate change vulnerability assessment
 - New small boat, *Tegula*
 - Increasing diversity, equity and inclusion of workforce
 - Indigenous Communities engagement
 - Webinization of Condition Reports
 - Superintendent recruitment
- John presented brief summary of Advisory Council Meeting.
- For meeting minutes, see: <https://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/sacma.html>

PRESENTATION REQUESTED BY RAP

California Marine Sanctuary Foundation (Robert Mazurek/CMSF)

- As the new Executive Director, Robert reintroduced the California Marine Sanctuary Foundation to RAP members.

- Robert discussed his background, CMSF Mission, CMSF Model, and project management across five focus areas, including:
 - Water Quality Protection
 - Marine Resource Protection
 - Education & Outreach
 - Climate Change Mitigation
 - Fiscal Sponsorship
- For more information, see: <https://www.californiamsf.org/>

PRESENTATIONS REQUESTED BY RAP

Ag Plastic and MBNMS - Focus on Solutions (Bridget Hoover)

- Bridget characterized the issue of agriculture plastics in watersheds, including plastic types, sources, uses, interactions with wildlife, and levels of contamination.
- Monitoring is occurring in the Salinas Valley, at stream banks, to quantify and identify plastics in agriculturally dominating watersheds.
- Strategic actions are being shared with agriculture growers.
- Recent study by CMSF, MBNMS and CSUMB can be accessed at: <https://www.awqa.org/agricultural-plastic-use-plasticulture/>

ED RICKETTS AWARD AND LECTURE

2021 Lecture Event (Erica Burton)

- Erica provided details of the 2021 Ed Ricketts Award and Lecture event.
- Mark Silberstein (Elkhorn Slough Foundation) will receive 2021 award, and provide virtual lecture.
- Lecture will be made part of the ONMS Education Webinar Series.
- Details of the lecture event will be advertised soon.
- For more information, see: <https://montereybay.noaa.gov/research/ricketts.html>

SANCTUARY RESEARCH UPDATE

West Coast Region Species Inventory (Andrew DeVogelaere)

- Andrew provided brief update on the species inventory.
- Recently, Hollings Scholars have been contributing to various taxonomic groups.
- There will be a future call for expert review, which may include RAP input.

2021 Sanctuary Sea Star Awards (John Hunt)

- John provided a brief overview of the upcoming Sanctuary Sea Star Brunch on September 19th at the Monterey Plaza Hotel, organized by the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Foundation.
- A couple of awards will be presented to local scientists, including:
 - Panetta Sea Star Award: John (posthumously) and Vicki Pearse
 - Research Sea Star Award: Brandan Southall.
- For more information, see: <https://montereybayfoundation.org/>

QUICK UPDATES ON NEW HIRES AT INSTITUTIONS, AND FACILITY UPDATES

- No decisions or actions

SUGGESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- No decisions or actions

Future Agenda Items (running list):

- **Nov 2021:** California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program (CCFRP), and MPA monitoring and synthesis of historic data sets in MBNMS (Mark Carr and Rick Starr)
- **Nov 2021:** Development of a Marine Protected Area monitoring program for California estuaries (Ross Clark)
- 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)
- EPA funding to document water quality enhancement projects in the watershed capacity to reduce harmful algal blooms (Ross Clark)
- Update on research and restoration activities related to closing of the Marina sand mining plant (USGS and others)
- Microplastics in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary: Current and future research to guide management (Matt Savoca/Hopkins Marine Station)

2021 RAP Meeting Schedule and Locations

Date	Hosts	Location
January 8	Cailliet	Virtual Meeting (until further notice)
March 12	Orescanin	Virtual Meeting (until further notice)
May 14	Southall	Virtual Meeting (until further notice)
September 10	Ruhl	Virtual Meeting (until further notice)
November 5	Clark	Virtual Meeting (until further notice)