

**MBNMS Research Activity Panel
Meeting Summary
September 13, 2013**

Host: Aimee David – Marine Policy (Monterey Bay Aquarium)

Location: Ocean View Conference Room
Monterey Bay Aquarium
886 Cannery Row
Monterey, CA 93940

Date: Friday, September 13th, 2013; 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Members:

	Discipline	Primary/ Alternate	Name	Institution
X	Research Coordinator		DeVogelaere, Andrew	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
	Biological Oceanography	primary	Kudela, Raphael	University of California, Santa Cruz
	Biological Oceanography	alternate	Chavez, Francisco	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
X	Deep-Sea Ecology	primary	Cailliet, Greg	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (retired)
X	Deep-Sea Ecology	alternate	Haddock, Steve	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
X	Estuarine Ecology	primary	Lindley, Steve	NOAA Fisheries Service
	Estuarine Ecology	alternate	Wasson, Kerstin	Elkhorn Slough NERR and Foundation
	Fisheries	primary	Grimes, Churchill	NOAA Fisheries Service (retired)
	Fisheries	alternate		
	Marine & Coastal Geology	primary	Storlazzi, Curt	United States Geological Survey
	Marine & Coastal Geology	alternate	Paull, Charles	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
	Marine Conservation Biology	primary		
	Marine Conservation Biology	alternate	Micheli, Fiorenza	Hopkins Marine Station
	Marine Policy	primary		
X	Marine Policy	alternate	David, Aimee	Monterey Bay Aquarium
X	Nearshore Ecology	primary	Lindholm, James †	California State University Monterey Bay
	Nearshore Ecology	alternate	Carr, Mark	University of California, Santa Cruz
	Physical Oceanography	primary		
X	Physical Oceanography	alternate	Ramp, Steve	Soliton Ocean Services, Inc.
X	Shelf & Slope Ecology	primary	Sogard, Susan	NOAA Fisheries Service
	Shelf & Slope Ecology	alternate		
	Social Sciences	primary	Pomeroy, Caroline	California Sea Grant Extension Program
X	Social Sciences	alternate	Scorse, Jason	Monterey Institute of International Studies
X	Water Quality	primary	Hunt, John †	University of California, Davis
	Water Quality	alternate	Epel, David	Hopkins Marine Station

*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:

Aiken, Emily	California State University Monterey Bay
Albers, Kelsey	California State University Monterey Bay
Bradley, Erin	California State University Monterey Bay
C., Justin	California State University Monterey Bay
Carlson, Robyn	California State University Monterey Bay
Devilla, Sarah	California State University Monterey Bay
Elliot, Rebecca	California State University Monterey Bay
Fredle, Molly	California State University Monterey Bay
Grimmer, Karen	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Hoffmann, Gary	MBNMS Advisory Council (At-Large)
Hoover, Bridget	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Hopkins, Kate	California State University Monterey Bay
Jew, Matthew	California State University Monterey Bay
Leary, Marilyn	California State University Monterey Bay
Lifland, David	California State University Monterey Bay
Malinis, Lauren	California State University Monterey Bay
Melgoza, Jorge	California State University Monterey Bay
Moye, Flower	California State University Monterey Bay
Perales, Brynn	California State University Monterey Bay
Rodriquez, Nichole	California State University Monterey Bay
Rosevelt, Carolyn	California State University Monterey Bay
Santos, Charles	California State University Monterey Bay
Schmidt, Marty	California State University Monterey Bay
Shafer, Ashleigh	California State University Monterey Bay
Spring, Margaret	Monterey Bay Aquarium
Takata, Mitchell	California State University Monterey Bay
Thunholm, Breanna	California State University Monterey Bay
Tobosa, Lauren	California State University Monterey Bay

CONSENT ITEMS

Introductions/Modifications to the Agenda (Lindholm)

HOST PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Monterey Bay Aquarium Conservation and Science Update (Margaret Spring/MBA)

- Spring provided brief history of aquarium
 - Opened 1984; 450 employees; >1200 volunteers
- Discussed Aquarium's role in ocean conservation
- New organizational structure in 2013
 - Past: Center for Future of Oceans; different visions, separate programs
 - Now: "Conservation and Science Division"; Brings together policy, Seafood Watch, conservation research
- Aquarium's major program areas
 - Conservation and Science
 - Exhibits
 - Husbandry
 - Education and Visitor Experience
- Will continue to take stock and shift focus
- Current policy activities

- Ocean wildlife
 - Shark fin trade ban
 - Sea otter recover plan
 - Ocean plastics
- Ocean governance and funding
 - National Ocean Policy & West Coast Governors Agreement
- Marine Protected Areas (Marine Life Protection Act)
- Conservation Research: Looking Ahead
 - Focus on species (and ecosystem)
 - Bluefin Tuna, White Shark, Sea otter
 - Recruit Leadership
 - Review Strategy and Collaborations
 - Improve Science Communications, Outreach

PRESENTATION REQUESTED BY RAP

MBNMS-related Desalination Activities (Bridget Hoover/MBNMS)

- Hoover provided brief history of MBNMS interest, guidelines, and involvement including:
 - Desalination Action Plan
 - Desalination Feasibility Study for Monterey Bay Region
 - Desalination Guidelines
- Desalination concerns
 - Impingement and entrainment of marine organisms
 - Discharge of saline brine and other by-products
 - Alteration of seafloor (on or beneath) by construction
- MBNMS involvement includes:
 - Tracking projects within Monterey Bay
 - Santa Cruz – Soquel Creek; www.scwd2desal.org
 - Deep Water; <http://www.deepwaterdesal.com/phase-1-intake.htm>
 - CalAm; <http://www.watersupplyproject.org/>
 - Coordinating regulatory discussions with other local, state and federal agencies
 - Tracking research efforts
 - Tracking SWRCB Ocean Plan amendment
- Research needs include:
 - Long-term chronic effects of brine discharges, specifically effects on the benthic communities
 - Mixing hypersaline concentrations with effluent from publicly owned treatment works (POTW) and power plants to better understand real world conditions and if there might be any synergistic effects from the effluent
- For more info see:
 - <http://montereybay.noaa.gov/resourcepro/resmanissues/desalination.html>

STAFF REQUEST TO RAP

Discussion of System-wide Monitoring (Lindholm)

- Lindholm provided background on issue related to NMS Condition Reports
- CINMS SAC sent letter to ONMS Science Coordinator (Gittings)

- Essentially, expert opinion should not be used in lieu of monitoring
- Discussion: How does MBNMS RAP want to respond
- General agreement: expert opinion should not replace monitoring
- Options:
 - Provide feedback to Bob Warner (CINMS SAC)
 - MBNMS SAC could elevate issue
 - When red color, insert shape within to indicate opinion or data-based
- Lindholm: Would RAP be comfortable providing letter to MBNMS SAC? Yes
- **ACTION:**
 - RAP will send points made today to Lindholm
 - Lindholm drafts letter for RAP review (via email), to include agreement w/CINMS statements; and suggestions on how to improve reports
 - Lindholm presents at future SAC meeting

MBNMS UPDATE

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Proposal (Karen Grimmer/MBNMS)

- Grimmer provided brief overview related to groundfish EFH 5-yr review
- West coast sanctuaries (Monterey Bay, Gulf of the Farallones, Olympic Coast) engaging in comment process (separate proposals); Channel Islands and Cordell Bank requesting no changes
- Goals of MBNMS proposal
 - Use new data to identify and add sensitive habitats to EFH Conservation Areas
 - Restore historically fished trawling grounds
 - Build trust and produce working relationship between MBNMS, fishermen, conservation organizations
- Proposal stakeholder group included fishermen, NGOs, MBNMS
- Collaborative proposal submitted to EFH review committee in August
 - Spatial modifications (add and remove)
 - Voluntary management areas (pilot project)
 - Changes to enforcement
 - Research and monitoring to collect baseline visual data in modified areas (future plan with research community)
- Next steps
 - EFH review committee provides comments to Pacific Fisheries Management Council
 - Council decides if move forward w/ Fishery Management Plan amendment (November meeting)
 - MBNMS continues to work within Council process
 - MBNMS EFH stakeholder group continues to meet to discuss voluntary areas
- Proposal available at: <http://montereybay.noaa.gov/resourcepro/ebmi/welcome.html>

SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

Summary of August 21st SAC Meeting at Half Moon Bay (Lindholm)

- Lindholm provided brief summary
- Joint meeting with GFNMS, items of interest included:
 - Shark attraction permits (science and ecotourism)

- EFH proposal
- Condition Reports
- Ship strikes and whales
- SAC minutes available at: http://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/sac_min.html

RAP MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership Update (DeVogelaere)

- New Member: Susan Sogard (Shelf and Slope Ecology)
- Lindley (primary) and Wasson (alternate) swapped Estuarine Ecology seats
- Open seats
 - Fisheries (alternate)
 - Marine Conservation Biology (primary)
 - Marine Policy (primary)
 - Physical Oceanography (alternate)
 - Shelf & Slope (alternate)
- **ACTION:** If RAP has ideas how to fill open seats, let DeVogelaere know

SUGGESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- DeVogelaere interested in existing item: Oil spills and long-term monitoring programs, Update list of NRDA collaborators
- Lindholm: ask Steve Gittings (HQ) to provide info on leadership changes at Big NOAA, and how affects little NOAA

Future Agenda Items (running list):

- MBNMS Updates:
 - Sanctuary Ecologically Significant Areas (SESAs)
 - Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA)
- Results of sand mining plant study (Scorese)
- Results of Pleasure Point Surf property value (Scorese)
- WQ monitoring web portals: Ocean Health for CA (per Hunt)
- Sept/Nov 2013 meeting: regional water board on assessment of monitoring data for 12 years at coastal confluences (30 streams/rivers); report written July 2013; (per Hunt)
- Leadership changes at Big NOAA, and how affects little NOAA (MBNMS)
- Oil spills and long-term monitoring programs
 - Update list of NRDA collaborators
