

**MBNMS Research Activity Panel
Meeting Summary
November 5, 2021**

Host: Ross Clark – Estuarine Environment (Central Coast Wetlands Group)

Location: Virtual Meeting

Date: Friday, November 5, 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)
X	Deep-Sea Environment	alternate	Haddock, Steve †	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		
	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.
X	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
X	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
Hayes, Dawn	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
McInnis, Margarita	California State Lands Commission (California Sea Grant State Fellow)
Shen, Chenchen	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Starr, Rick	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
Timmerman, Ross	Scripps Institution of Oceanography
Wertz, Steve	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Worden, Sara	California Department of Fish and Wildlife

CONSENT ITEMS

Introductions/Modifications to the Agenda (John Hunt)

- Changed the order of host presentation. Mark Carr and Rick Starr presented first.

PRESENTATIONS REQUESTED BY RAP

Marine Life Protection Act Network Evaluation in MBNMS: Kelp Forest Habitat Group (Mark Carr)

- Mark presented results from nearly 10 years of intensive monitoring of central coast kelp forests both inside MPAs and in control areas. The work included assessments of fish stocks, invertebrates, and kelp communities.

California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program, and Monitoring and Evaluation of Mid-depth Rock Ecosystems in the MLPA Marine Protected Area Network (Rick Starr/Moss Landing Marine Laboratories)

- Rick presented the methods and results of the California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program and Mid-depth Habitat Group monitoring. This program has engaged more than 1,500 recreational fishermen to capture, identify, measure and release fish from inside and outside MPAs.

HOST PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Development of a Marine Protected Area monitoring program for California estuaries (Ross Clark)

- Ross discussed the development of a Marine Protected Area monitoring program for California estuaries. The Central Coast Wetlands Group at MLML has developed monitoring techniques and participated in designing a statewide estuarine monitoring program.

SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

Summary of October Advisory Council Meetings (John Hunt)

- John presented brief summary of Advisory Council Meeting.
- For meeting minutes, see: <https://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/sacma.html>

RAP FOCUS TOPICS

Updating “Major Marine Science Institutions in the Monterey Bay Region” (John Hunt)

- John provided update on status of RAP responses.
- **ACTION**: John requested final call for RAP members to provide institution information by email, or otherwise respond if unable.

SANCTUARY RESEARCH UPDATE

MBNMS Research Staff Update (Andrew DeVogelaere)

- Andrew provided update on shifting roles of research staff for fiscal year 2022, in-part to address research team growth experience and succession planning.
- Andrew will spend the year increasing outside partnerships to address research and monitoring in new management plan; prepare traditionally underrepresented groups for NOAA-type science positions; and teach classes at CSUMB and MLML.
- Research staff will take on team-lead activities, including representing research at meetings traditionally involving MBNMS Research Coordinator (i.e., MBNMS, ONMS, west coast region, MBON, SAC).

PRESENTATIONS REQUESTED BY RAP

Offshore Wind Energy Update (Brian Owens)

- Brian Owens provided update, which generated an interesting discussion with plenty of specific details about economy, ecology, energy, litigation, and related topics.
- RAP will revisit updates and discussion at future RAP meetings.

ED RICKETTS AWARD AND LECTURE

2021 Event and 2022 Nominations (Erica Burton)

- 2021 lecture event on hold until recipient/speaker (Mark Silberstein) able to deliver presentation.
- **ACTION**: Erica will solicit 2022 award nominations from RAP via email.
- **ACTION**: RAP members should send nominations to Erica by December 8th.

RAP MEETING SCHEDULE

Virtual Meetings and Call for 2022 RAP Meeting Hosts (Erica Burton)

- There have been advantages to virtual meetings, including increased attendance by members and guests, and reduced carbon footprint (driving).
- We will most likely continue with virtual meetings into 2022. And, Erica will continue to arrange virtual meetings.
- RAP expressed their support for a mix of in-person and virtual meetings (when able). A central meeting location was also favored.
- **ACTION**: Erica emailed RAP, soliciting host presentations for each 2022 meeting.

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):

- 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)
- Offshore seabed mining (Steve Haddock)
- Monterey Bay Aquarium deep sea exhibit update (Steve Haddock)
- Kelp and urchin surveys, and seastar wasting (Cailliet/Carr/Lonhart)
- Funded project on kelp as ecological-social systems in Monterey and Mendocino areas (Pomeroy/Carr)
- Offshore wind energy updates

2022 RAP Meeting Schedule and Locations

Date	Hosts	Location
January 14	Haddock	Virtual Meeting (until further notice)
March 11		Virtual Meeting (until further notice)
May 13	Cheriton	Virtual Meeting (until further notice)
September 9		Virtual Meeting (until further notice)
November 4		Virtual Meeting (until further notice)