




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
299 Foam Street
Monterey, California 93940

September 24, 2001

TO: Sanctuary Advisory Council

FROM: William J. Douros, Superintendent 

SUBJECT: Proposed MBNMS Activities for Fiscal Year 2002

At the Sanctuary Advisory Council's August retreat to discuss the Advisory Council priorities for the next year, council members asked me to provide, in advance of the October SAC meeting, a summary of the activities proposed by Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary staff for next fiscal year (FY '02). Attached are two Excel worksheets which lay that out. The Advisory Council wanted to see these before finalizing the Management Plan Review as the SAC's priority for the next year.

The first worksheet "Major Activity Schedule – MBNMS" lists the basic priorities and provides a brief description, along with "deliverables", for each. This is from what we call our "Annual Operating Plan" and identifies what we would accomplish if we received level funding, what is called our "base budget".

The second file "National Program Priorities – Proposed by MBNMS" provides the activities for which we have requested additional funds from our headquarters.

At the present time, we do not have an approved budget for NOAA or the National Marine Sanctuary Program. Thus, we do not have an allocation for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, or any indication as to how likely we are to get any of the requested new money.



Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
 Monterey Bay NMS
 FY02 Preliminary Planning

MAJOR ACTIVITY SCHEDULE -- MBNMS	
ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
1.1 Resource Issue Education	FY02 (1) Provide water quality education and outreach using FSAs, event participation (4), expanding MURP to another new city. (2) Develop/disseminate salmonid compendium for grades 4-7 to accompany MBNMS Salmonid poster. (3) Implement Threatened and Thriving Conservation Series including public lectures, print materials and Kids Art Contest.
1.2 General Education and Outreach	FY02 (1) Produce and distribute new/revised education publications/materials: 3 issues of MBNMS newsletter, <i>Ecosystem Observations</i> , website revision and new "Sanctuary Activities" brochure. (2) Develop an exhibit/signage plan with CA State Parks regional interpretive staff. (3) Support management plan review process by delivering public presentations, providing/creating print materials for use at scoping meetings and participating in scoping sessions.
1.3 Visitor Center	FY02 (1) Site selection for interpretive facility and initiate design efforts. (2) Extensive collaboration with regional community necessary.
1.4 Anniversary Programs	FY02 (1) Highlight Baga to Bering project - "In the Path of Exploration" - and the cultural richness of Monterey Bay's 400 year history through public events and symposium. (2) Coordinate with partners to organize a series of events celebrating MBNMS 10 year anniversary; Robert Lynn Nelson poster, Oceans Fair, celebrations in 3 regions of MBNMS.
2.1 Research on Resource Threats	FY02 (1) Conduct studies at Pt. Pinos to assess human impacts to rocky shores. (2) Help develop capabilities to satellite tag leatherback turtles and assess migration patterns (3) Assess potential impacts of cables, particularly in the Big Sur Canyon complex. (4) Explore potential human threats and determine sperm whale genetics at the Davidson Seamount; complete data analysis of Davidson Seamount exploration. (5) Interpret general applied research issues to decision makers.
4.1 Pilot Enforcement Program	FY02 (1) Develop systematic surveillance strategy and reporting protocols based on first year results. (2) Work with CC and OLE to address shortfalls in case management and fine follow through. (3) Evaluate violation information from outside sources (SOS). (4) Maintain 20 jet ski buoys. (5) Fund interpretive Team OCEAN kayak program. (6) Support state park ranger. (7) Work with HQ to resolve enforceability of overflight regs.
4.2 Permit Program	FY02 (1) Review and issue approximately 55 permits/yr. (2) Use GIS mapping to assess cumulative effects of issued permits. (3) Strengthen permit compliance checks, including use of boat, to assess compliance status of 10 permits. (4) Continue assessment of other agency projects and permits that affect Sanctuary resources, app. 20/yr. (5) Develop on-line application forms for website.
4.3 Regional Policy Collaboration	FY02 (1) Develop w/CCC draft guidelines for coastal armoring. (2) Develop guidelines w/CCC on desalination plants in MBNMS. (3) Develop final guidelines on permitting fireworks. (4) Participate in finalization of coast Highway 1 management plan and disposal alternatives. (5) With Alliance working group, develop assessment of potential for reserves/NPAs in Sanctuary waters.

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5.1 Update MBNMS Site Characterization	FY02 (1) Using new information from SIMoN and literature reviews, update the on-line MBNMS site characterization, including a new chapter on fishery resources.
7.1 Shipwreck Assessment	FY02 (1) Complete detailed assessment of important shipwrecks identified in last year's inventory. (2) Participate in the West Coast expedition - <i>In the Path of Exploration</i> - with NOAA and other partners on the R/V McArthur. (3) Develop sampling methodology for evaluating 3 important shipwrecks during Exploration mission.
8.1 Management Plan Revision	FY02 (1) Produce outreach materials. (2) Conduct over 15 public scoping meetings. (3) Synthesize and prioritize issues and problem statements. (4) Conduct public workshops to gather input on strategies and action plans. (5) Initiate preliminary Draft BIS and management plan preparation.
9.1 Implement SIMoN	FY02 (1) Hire SIMoN staff. (2) Select contractors to commence Elkhorn Slough monitoring. (3) Begin to synthesize existing monitoring data. (4) Bring on-line new SIMoN web portal. (5) Begin planning for critical outreach materials, like symposium and annual report. (6) Host scientific and management committees to develop new monitoring efforts (assuming new funds available for monitoring).
10.1 Emergency Response Program	FY02 (1) Maintain personnel, equipment readiness for emergency response. (2) Work with USCC Area Committee to refine response strategies for Sanctuary coast, including dispersant review. (3) Work with agencies and community groups to develop response plan and improved capacities for Big Sur/Carmel area. (4) Identify and pursue preventative and liability measures needed for small vessel groundings/sinkings. (5) Respond to emergency events throughout year, app. 10/yr. (6) Develop GIS data layer of sinkings and other response efforts for MBNMS.
13.1 Water Quality Protection Program	FY02 (1) Implement agricultural plan recommendations re: permit coordination, technical training and farm bureau pilot projects. (2) Implement multi-agency tracking and evaluation efforts. (3) Strengthen Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network by utilizing database entry for 7 volunteer groups, conducting 3 training events, and 2 Sanctuary-wide monitoring events. (4) Complete draft analysis of sewage contamination and beach closure issues.
14.1 Strengthen Community Partnerships	FY02 (1) Support and strengthen community involvement via SAC (6 mtgs./year), working groups (CWG, RTAP, RAP, SEP) and media relations. (2) Work with one local business community (Monterey or Cambria) to replicate SC Task Force brochure on business/environment. (3) Assist with 2 underwater cleanups; organize fish counts. (4) Expand business community involvement with Sanctuary education programs.

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ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
15.1 Staff Support for MPA Center	FY02 (1) MBNMS staff member Aaron King is on loan to Santa Cruz MPA Science Center until April 1, 2002.
16.1 Core Operations	FY02 (1) Support Monterey, Santa Cruz, Cambria, Half Moon Bay office maintenance and administration. (2) Maintain 6 vehicles. (3) Contract management for visitor center, SIMON, and Davidson Seamount exploration in addition to up to 80 smaller contracts. (4) Standard personnel issues, including staff administration for up to 20 FTE's. (5) Maintain computers for all offices; maintain/update network systems; expand GIS; maintain/update website. (6) Pay bills.
16.2 Field Operations Support	FY02 (1) Maintain MBNMS small boat and supporting facilities. (2) Provide small boat operations for resource protection, outreach and research projects, including proficiency training for all boat operators and crew. (3) Coordinate aircraft operations in support of research activities (marine mammal surveys and coastal erosion assessment) and resource protection efforts.

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NATIONAL PROGRAM PRIORITIES - Proposed by MBNMS

ACTIVITY	AOP No.	Priority (H/M/L)	DESCRIPTION
new 1.5 Implement MERITO	1.5	H	This program will be a new initiative to provide multicultural education to the central California Hispanic community. We will focus on implementing the Site-Based and New Educators components of the proposed MERITO program. Other funds include a grant from the State of California to partially implement the Site-Based component of MERITO at Elkhorn Slough. This program is a pilot effort that will be exportable to other Sanctuary sites with minority-served communities.
new 1.6 SEA Lab Monterey Bay	1.6	H	The SEA Lab Monterey Bay residential education program will provide a unique experience for underprivileged youth in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties. SEA Lab will introduce youth and teachers to a variety of habitats from watersheds to seashores, with a focus on NOAA's coastal and ocean programs like the MBNMS. It is designed to be a pilot program exportable to other NOAA/Sanctuary sites. Support will focus on contracting services for instructors and counselors for 11 weeks of youth and teacher programming in summer 2002.
9.1 SIMON - New Monitoring	9.1	H	The MBNMS staff, in conjunction with the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation, applied to the David and Lucile Packard Foundation for a grant to conduct new ecosystem monitoring in the Sanctuary. This multi-million dollar grant includes matching funds, per direction of Director Baska, of \$200,000 for new monitoring. The MBNMS has been able to allocate \$80,000 from its base budget for monitoring, and national program funds are being sought to complete the commitment.
new 14.2 Install Weather Kiosks	14.2	M	The MBNMS seeks national program funds to install two weather kiosks at two ports in central California - probably Half Moon Bay and Monterey. This system will be modelled after CINMS weather kiosks which have been a success at two ports in southern California adjacent to Channel Islands. Will allow MBNMS to better interface with "gateways" - the harbors - and showcase NOAA assets like National Weather Service. Kiosks cost approximately \$35,000 each.
16.2 Field Ops Support - New Boat	16.2	H	The MBNMS has operated the nation's largest national marine sanctuary with a small craft (31' long) capable of safe navigation only 20 miles from port - the MBNMS stretches along 280 miles and 5,322 sq. miles of California coast. Critical research conducted at virtually every other national marine sanctuary, as well as educational opportunities, are never conducted at the MBNMS due to inadequate boat capabilities. Per direction in FY01, MBNMS's recent Packard Foundation SIMON grant included new boat as matching funds for multi-million dollar grant request for new ecosystem monitoring.