



ABOUT THE SANCTUARY

Designated in 1992, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS or Sanctuary) is a federally protected marine area offshore of California's central coast. Stretching from Marin to Cambria, the MBNMS encompasses a shoreline of 276 miles and 5,322 square nautical miles of ocean.

Supporting one of the world's most diverse marine ecosystems, it is home to numerous mammals, seabirds, fishes, invertebrates and plants in a remarkably productive coastal environment. The MBNMS was established for the purpose of resource protection, research, education and public use of this national treasure.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) AND NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PROGRAM (NMSP) NEWS

Farallones Beach Watch Volunteer Named Foundation Volunteer of the Year

Beach Watch surveyor Mary Cantini was awarded the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation's Volunteer of the Year Award in a June 3rd ceremony in Washington, D.C. Mary Cantini, a long-time volunteer for Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, helped conduct beach monitoring and clean-up efforts during the Cosco Busan Oil Spill in San Francisco. She was singled out for her "dedication, skill and tireless efforts during a major oil spill" which contributed valuable information to the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and authorities in spill response. Her systematic pre-spill surveys established a baseline of wildlife data on some of the most heavily oiled beaches. Dating back to 1999, Mary Cantini has contributed to the science and resource protection of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary through Beach Watch, and through a program to cut disturbance to harbor seals on their pupping grounds.

The NOAA Sponsored Whaling Symposium

From June 15 to June 19, NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries sponsored the 2008 Whaling Heritage Symposium. Over 100 attendees participated in the event, along with co-sponsors National Marine Fisheries Service and the National Maritime Historical Society, and co-host institutions Mystic Seaport, New Bedford Whaling Museum, and New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park. Highlights of the symposium include: tours of the historic Charles Morgan (oldest and last traditional whaling vessel), keynote talk by Ric Burns (film maker currently working on the documentary "Into the Deep: America, Whaling, and the World"), tours of the resource collections at Mystic, New Bedford, and Nantucket Whaling Museums, and Dan Basta and Rear Admiral Doug Teeson signing the recently approved Memorandum of Agreement between NOAA ONMS and Mystic Seaport, in support of collaborative heritage preservation projects. The broad-ranging Whaling Heritage Symposium, the first event of its kind, went far beyond simply the retelling of historic whaling narratives. The program speakers brought together important issues, such as the cultural heritage of indigenous whaling, minority populations and American whaling history, the geography of whaling archaeology and marine protected areas, and new directions in marine mammal research which benefit from historical resources. The content was excellent, and both public and professionals came away from the event with a greater appreciation for the surprising connections between maritime and whaling heritage, marine science, and ocean stewardship.

The Hawai'i Ocean Guardian Kid's Club and Contest Promotes the International Year of the Reef

Students across the country can show off their knowledge about marine conservation and win one of several cool prizes including accommodations for two nights in Hawai'i and Swatch watches, in an ocean reef-themed contest presented by Outrigger Hotels and Resorts in collaboration with the NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. The Hawai'i Ocean Guardians Kid's Club and Contest is part of the 2008 International Year of the Reef. The contest is open to all students in grades K through 8 in the United States, and encourages youngsters to express their insights and observations about the ocean and sensitive coral reef ecosystems through the creation of original stories, poetry or works of art. Deadline for entries is August 29, 2008. Please visit <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education> for more information.

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS

Channel Islands NMS

At a public meeting on July 18, 2008, strategies for reducing whale ship strikes in the Santa Barbara Channel were discussed collaboratively between staff from the NOAA Fisheries' Southwest Regional Office and the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS). Following a series of blue whale fatal ship strikes in fall 2007, and in response to recent Advisory Council recommendations calling for the preparation of a prevention and emergency response plan, Fisheries Service staff Peter Fischel and Joe Cordaro presented a memo describing planned actions by the Office of Protected Resources. Cordaro explained plans to: expand the list of focal species from a previous scope of only blue whales to any Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed large cetaceans; establish a management action triggering event threshold of any sighted aggregation of 5 ESA-listed large cetaceans within or adjacent to the Santa Barbara Channel's shipping lanes; and, upon CINMS notification of the triggering condition, requesting that the Coast Guard issue a Local Notice to Mariners containing a recommended ship speed of 10-12 knots. This exchange exemplifies how national marine sanctuaries, through their community-based sanctuary advisory councils, add value across NOAA line offices. The Advisory Council will next turn their attention to longer term issues and recommendations for reducing ship strike risk.

Gulf of the Farallones NMS

Fifteen homeless children from shelters, transitional motels and other unstable living situations enjoyed physical, emotional and spiritual respite by venturing into the Farallones marine sanctuary this week. The Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association staff offered it's weeklong Sanctuary Explorers Adventure (SEA) Camp free of charge to Bay Area youth from the San Francisco based organization "Home Away From Homelessness." Sanctuary campers – some for whom this was their first ocean experience – had fun exploring the sanctuary: hiking on the Marin Headlands at Point Bonita, the spooky thrill of dawn tidepooling at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, visiting recovering sea lion "patients" at The Marine Mammal Center, and canoeing in San Francisco Bay.

Monitor NMS

The *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary has completed a scientific research expedition to the site of the remains of three sunken German submarines off the coast of North Carolina. The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries led the expedition as part of a larger WWII Battle of the Atlantic archaeological study. NOAA conducted a non-invasive archaeological survey that included photo documentation of the vessels' visible sections and the biological communities found at the sites. The expedition was conducted consistent with U.S. and international policy; the submarines were not disturbed or recovered, and were treated with the same respect afforded a U.S. sunken craft. Partners included the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, National Park Service, U.S. Minerals Management Service, State of North Carolina, UNC Coastal Studies Institute, and East Carolina University. On the web: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/missions/battleoftheatlantic/>

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

NOAA and the USFWS have jointly issued proposed regulations to establish a ship reporting system for the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. This action would implement measures adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) requiring notification by ships passing through the Monument without interruption. The proposed rule was published on Monday, July 7, 2008, and the comment period will close on August 6, 2008. A draft environmental assessment has been prepared for this proposed action pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, and is available for public review (at <http://hawaiiireef.noaa.gov/>) and comment concurrently with the proposed rule.

Thunder Bay NMS

Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary has been selected as the 2008 recipient of the Merit Network's Award for Innovation in Networking and Information Technology. Merit's selection of Thunder Bay NMS recognizes the sanctuary's ongoing commitment to enhancing its educational and scientific work via technology and networking. Thunder Bay NMS has consistently sought opportunities to enhance its educational programs using telepresence, connecting to other marine sanctuaries and research organizations to bring in remote programs and to share its own resources. It has embraced Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) technology both as a scientific instrument and as an educational tool. As a further indication of its commitment to network-based interaction, the sanctuary has helped ensure its long-term access to plentiful bandwidth by participating in the Alpena Regional Fiber Consortium, a forward-looking community networking project. The sanctuary will receive this award via video conference with the annual Merit Member Conference, June 13 in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS AND PROGRAM UPDATES



MANAGEMENT

MBNMS Superintendent Meets with Commander, USCG Sector San Francisco

On June 2, Paul Michel and Scott Kathey met with Captain Gugg, Commander, USCG Sector San Francisco to discuss cooperative programs between the Coast Guard and the MBNMS, including resource protection, enforcement, office space, vessel berthing facilities, sanctuary advisory council representation, oil spill preparedness, training, vessel traffic, vessel groundings/sinkings, and information sharing. The meeting was very positive and highlighted areas for improved cooperation and mutual benefits. Captain Gugg assumed command of the sector during the Cosco Busan oil spill last December.

Black Diamond Films (United Kingdom) Interview with Superintendent

On June 3, Black Diamond Films interviewed Paul Michel as part of a documentary segment for a multi-part series about California's technology-oriented society. Black Diamond anticipates promoting the series to BBC World. A segment of the series will focus on cutting-edge technologies used in marine research within the MBNMS. The producers envision using the sanctuary as a backdrop for the ocean technology segment. They collected video footage of Paul Michel's comments about what a marine sanctuary is and what challenges it faces, particularly those requiring the help of technological tools. The MBNMS has provided assistance to the project's producers for several months by connecting them to marine researchers in the area.

MBNMS and West Coast Regional Office host Sicilian Film Crew

For the week of June 7-14th, Vincenzo Incontro Superintendent of Plemmirio MPA (on Sicily) visited MBNMS to film a documentary about the life and work of "Sicilian" fishermen who fish today in Pacific Ocean waters, in particular central California and Alaska. One of the goals of the project is to highlight the linkages between fisherman and the ocean and its natural resources in both locations. Additionally, the film will note that the area of origin for these fishermen, in western Sicily, is now a marine protected as is the case in Monterey Bay; how marine protection and ocean use are balanced will be a sub-component of the final film. Film shoots included interviews with staff, and fishermen and their families who emigrated from Marettimo (western Sicily) to Monterey over the past 100 years. Sanctuary staff also escorted the crew for a dive at Point Lobos to film underwater in a reserve, a visit down the Big Sur coast to shoot the Coastal Discovery Center, Piedras Blancas Lighthouse and the resident elephant seals, and a boat trip on Monterey Bay to film purse seiners and humpback whales.

Identifying New Technological Tools for Restoration Work

On June 19, Scott Kathey, Jean DeMarignac, and Dave Lott attended a demonstration of mini ROVs at Seabotix Inc. in San Diego to investigate the potential applicability of various ROV models for restoration projects within the MBNMS. The MBNMS is coordinating with the West Coast regional office to identify ROV systems that will meet site needs, while maintaining compatibility with regional sanctuary program needs and assets.

Piedras Blancas Light Station Opening Celebration.

Superintendent Paul Michel attended the opening dedication ceremony for the Piedras Blancas Lighthouse (light station) on July 19. The historic lighthouse is located at the southernmost end of the Big Sur Coast near the Hearst Castle and San Simeon. In the early 1870's, this location was chosen to fill the gap between the lighthouses at Point Conception and Point Sur. The Piedras Blancas Lighthouse was completed in 1875. The original tower was 115 feet tall and housed a first-order Fresnel lens. A fog signal building and additional keeper's dwelling were added in 1906. The lighthouse was operated by employees of the US Lighthouse Service until 1939 when the Coast Guard assumed command. The Coast Guard subsequently relinquished control and management of the Piedras Blancas Light Station to The Bureau of Land Management in 2001. The tower, buildings, and grounds are undergoing major renovations and repair.

Jack Dunnigan Visits Coastal Discovery Center at San Simeon Bay

Jack Dunnigan completed his visit to three California sanctuaries with a visit to the Coastal Discovery Center at San Simeon Bay on August 1. Jack and wife Linda spent a couple of hours looking at exhibits, touring the area, and learning about MBNMS's southern region activities.

Local Scientists Selected to Serve on MBNMS Research Activity Panel

Four local scientists have been selected to fill vacant disciplines/seats on the Research Activity Panel (RAP): 1) Fisheries - alternate (Jason Vasques, California Department of Fish and Game); 2) Nearshore Ecology - primary (James Lindholm, California State University Monterey Bay); 3) Physical Oceanography - alternate (Steve Ramp, CENCOOS/Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute); and 4) MBNMS Advisory Council Research - alternate (John Hunt, University of California Davis; existing Water Quality - alternate). The MBNMS RAP is a working group of the Sanctuary Advisory Council.

RESEARCH AND MONITORING

SIMoN staff posts comprehensive species list on web site

On June 6th, Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) staff published a comprehensive species list of over 1,400 intertidal taxa on the SIMoN web site (see: http://sanctuariesimon.org/monterey/sections/rockyShores/project_info.php?projectID=100281&sec=rs). Species richness of 10 sites between Pigeon Point and Soquel Point were surveyed by students of the University of California, Santa Cruz in 1971-1973 and again in 1996-1997. Teams of 20-30 students visited each of the 10 sites each quarter and enumerated the species found (algae and invertebrates; fishes in 1996-1997 only). The total number of species found at each site was remarkably similar between the two survey periods. More invertebrates were found at all sites in 1996-97 than in the 1970s, probably because of increased experience by the principal investigator. Significantly more species were found at Soquel Point and Point Santa Cruz in the 1990s than the 1970s, likely because of improved water quality after the 1976 closure of an intertidal domestic sewage outfall at Soquel Point. In contrast, there was significantly fewer species at the Ano Nuevo sites in the 1990s than the 1970s, possibly because of the marked increase of pinnipeds there over that time period. This project demonstrates intertidal habitats can recover from direct sewage discharge, but only after decades.

SIMoN staff leads development of *Undaria* eradication action plan

On June 6th, Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) staff lead a second teleconference of the recently established *Undaria* eradication team. This team, formed as a result of the recent USDA workshop on the control of invasive seaweeds, includes academic and agency research scientists whose task is to write and implement a plan to locally eradicate the invasive Asian kelp *Undaria pinnatifida* from Monterey Harbor. During the call an outline of the action plan was approved and both writing and budgetary responsibilities were assigned to team members. A 75% draft is due July 11, 2008 and a final is targeted for September 2008. The action plan will be used to guide on-going and new efforts to eradicate *Undaria*, obtain external funds, and inform other invaded harbors in California.

GIS Kelp Layers developed to provide historical perspective

Maria Osiadacz, GIS Intern, presented her final project and manual, "Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to Analyze Kelp Fluctuations in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS)", on June 11, 2008 to the MBNMS. She developed a technical process to extract kelp signatures from aerial images and provided final GIS layers of total kelp extent around the Monterey Peninsula in 1999 and 2000. These layers provide useful historical perspectives of kelp resources for managers of the near shore waters and state Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

Peace Corps visits Monterey

The Peace Corps recruitment office from Oakland is increasing their interest in volunteers with marine science experience. As part of their office retreat this week, they visited the Monterey Bay Sanctuary and Monterey Bay Aquarium. Dr. Andrew DeVogelaere, Research Coordinator, helped guide a rocky shore field trip near Pt. Pinos with former sanctuary staff Aaron King.

Sanctuary joins seminar to study role of MPAs in ecosystem-based management

The MBNMS has entered a partnership with five other sanctuaries and eight universities to study the role of MPAs in ecosystem-based management. This distributed seminar is being funded by the National Center for Ecological Synthesis and Assessment, and will include literature reviews, ecosystem product synthesis, and an eventual analysis on the role of National Marine Sanctuaries in the application of ecosystem-based management in MPAs. This seminar is a unique model of joint courses among academic institutions across the nation to address the needs of resource managers.

Sanctuary Lecture at the Lion's Club

The Lion's Club is an international group with members interested in community service. Andrew DeVogelaere was the invited speaker at the Marina Lion's club on June 18, and spoke about "Your Sanctuary: food webs, how to study the ocean, and exploration." Among the members in attendance was AMBAG representative and Mayor Pro Tem for Marina, Dave McCall. Linking information about Sanctuaries with service organizations is one method of partnering for educating general audiences.

SIMoN Divers Conduct Big Sur Nearshore Characterization Dives

On July 1 and 2, scientists from the Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) and UC Santa Cruz conducted a total of 24 SCUBA dives at five sites along the Big Sur coast. The *R/V Fulmar* was the operational platform. The goal of this ongoing project is to further characterize the marine resources and habitats of the Big Sur coastline, particularly the nearshore subtidal. This project continues some of the marine resources surveys conducted from 2003 to 2005 as part of the Coast Highway Management Plan (CHMP) for Highway 1 in Big Sur. High definition video was captured for every dive.

SIMoN staff member provides diver survey training to local dive club

On June 30th, Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) staff gave a presentation to the Dive Club of Silicon Valley. Dr. Steve Lonhart was invited to speak to club members at the training facilities in Santa Clara, where members were preparing for the July 12th Great Annual Fish Count (GAFC). In recent years the GAFC has expanded to include sampling targeted species of invertebrates and algae. These divers almost exclusively dive in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary when making local dive trips. Educating these divers (n=23) to conduct ecological surveys using the protocols developed by the Reef Environmental Education Foundation fosters a sense of stewardship and supports the growing number of citizen scientists.

SIMoN staff member supports rocky intertidal surveys by UK scientists

On July 3rd and 4th, Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) staff assisted with rocky intertidal surveys of Point Pinos (public access) and nearby China Point (Hopkins Marine Station, no public access). Ms. Kayleigh Hughes and Ms. Sparky Mercer, two masters students from the University of Bangor in Wales, are studying the rocky shore as a follow-up to a project conducted in 2002 by Tenera Environmental (see http://sanctuarysimon.org/monterey/sections/rockyShores/project_info.php?projectID=100183&sec=rs). Kayleigh and Sparky are comparing sites with high vs. low human use, and coupled with the Tenera data, can look for trends through time for targeted species. With the option of traveling anywhere to conduct their research, these international students specifically chose to study in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Extensive planning with their professors (intertidal ecologists) at the University of Bangor has ensured a successful international exchange of science and data.

SIMoN staff member assists with effort to eradicate invasive seaweed near Oakland, CA

On July 7th, Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) staff traveled to Oakland, CA to provide assistance with an effort to eradicate the invasive seaweed *Ascophyllum nodosum*. Natalie Cosentino-Manning from NOAA's Restoration Center asked for assistance in the field to manually remove the small, olive-green seaweed. Volunteers from Save the Bay, UC Davis, and California Department of Fish and Game were on hands and knees, picking out the seaweed from among marsh grasses and pickleweed. San Francisco Bay is the most invaded estuary in the world, and there are several programs in place monitoring the shores for new arrivals. If initiated shortly after detecting an invader, eradication programs can succeed. A second removal effort will take place in August.



An example of one of the 70-mm vertical aerial infrared photographs of the coastline digitized by NODC. In infrared imagery, the vegetation is red. This photo Highway 1 (in white on the left side of the image), the coastline, and several offshore kelp beds (the red blotches in the middle of the image).

MBNMS and NODC digitize and archive over 1,000 aerial photographs of kelp canopy

As part of its conservation and management mandate, the MBNMS established and conducted a kelp resource inventory program within the sanctuary-wide coastal zone in 1999 and 2000. MBNMS acquired data with 70-mm vertical aerial infrared photography. This data set contains 1,044 infrared aerial photos digitized to archival format directly from the original 70-mm slides of the California Coastal Kelp Resource Project. This data set also contains survey area maps. Data slides and maps were digitized in archival format as part of a joint MBNMS and NOAA National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC) project with funding from the Climate Database Modernization Program (CDMP) of the NOAA National Climatic Data Center.

MBNMS Characterizes Unexplored Habitats and Marine Protected Areas

From July 6 to 22, 2008, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary staff, in collaboration with California State University,

Monterey Bay, led a research cruise aboard the sanctuary research vessel FULMAR off central California. The primary objectives were the characterization of seafloor habitats and the associated macro-invertebrates and fishes at unexplored locations on the continental shelf; and the quantification of these resources within and around State Marine Reserves and State Marine Conservation Areas off

Soquel Canyon and the Big Sur coast. Video transects were conducted with a towed camera sled. The characterization effort will support site selection for potential federal marine reserves while also contributing to the baseline data collection for the newly designated State Marine Reserves and State Marine Conservation Areas.

MBNMS Collects High-Definition Underwater Footage for Local Television Series

On July 25, MBNMS collected approximately 40 minutes of high-definition underwater footage for an upcoming episode of "Quest" to air on PBS (KQED). Video primarily focused on divers conducting quantitative benthic invertebrate and algae surveys for Marine Protected Area monitoring.

RESOURCE PROTECTION

Urban Watch Training Draws Many New Volunteers

On June 1st, twenty-four volunteers participated in the annual Urban Watch program training led by MBNMS water quality staff. The Urban Watch program, coordinated by the MBNMS Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network in partnership with the Coastal Watershed Council and Save the Whales Organization, is a volunteer-based, dry season storm water monitoring program in the cities of Pacific Grove, Monterey, Carmel, Seaside, and Capitola. Data collected by citizens is reported to city officials who use the data to inform their storm water management programs and source tracking efforts.

Sanctuary staff to coordinate food safety-water quality collaborative

Agriculture Water Quality Coordinator Lisa Lurie will be coordinating the Farm Food Safety Conservation Network ("Network"). The mission of the Network is "to facilitate the coordination of related organizations to support agricultural industry efforts to minimize food safety risks through methods which also minimize or avoid associated impacts to water quality, wildlife and habitat through education, trainings, research, communication and outreach." Since forming in 2006, the Network has brought together local representatives from resource conservation agencies, regulatory agencies, environmental nonprofits, and the agricultural industry. Identifying common-ground solutions that protect food safety and water quality is critical for maintaining and advancing efforts to reduce agricultural nonpoint source pollution in sanctuary watersheds. Through coordinating stakeholder dialogue around this issue via the Network, the MBNMS is addressing a strategic priority identified by its agricultural water quality program.

State and Federal Agencies Meet About the Light Brown Apple Moth

On June 11th, Resource Protection staff met with representatives from the California Dept of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), CA Dept. of Fish and Game (CDFG), US Dept. of Food and Agriculture (USDA), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to discuss eradication efforts of the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) on the Central Coast. The LBAM was detected on the Central Coast in March 2007 and up until that point had never been identified anywhere in the contiguous United States. This moth enjoys over 200 crops and trees, many of which are found in California. Currently, the CDFA is developing an Environmental Impact Report to address the aerial application of a pheromone product to be sprayed in areas from the Monterey Peninsula to San Francisco. Once a new formulation is chosen, they will pursue applications in San Mateo and San Francisco Counties. Aerial applications are on hold in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties due to court rulings that an EIR must be completed prior to future aerial applications. The agencies named above are assisting with that process.

Regional Integrated Water Management

On June 26th, the Water Quality Protection Program Director hosted a meeting for representatives of the six Integrated Regional Water Management Planning regions (IRWMP) from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara counties in order to prioritize regional efforts to protect water quality and water supply. A comparison document, developed by the sanctuary, identified successful programs that could be replicated throughout the Central Coast region. The group is working on how to prioritize and fund those efforts through Prop 84 IRWMP funding.

What is Natural Water Quality?

On July 3rd, a conference call was held with staff from the Water Quality Protection Program, State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Central Coast Long Term Environmental Assessment Network (CCLEAN) and Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) to design a monitoring program for Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS). All jurisdictions discharging to the 34 designated ASBSs along the coast of California are being required to eliminate all dry weather flows and monitor storm events both at the discharge point and in the receiving waters. Staffs are currently trying to determine what is "natural water quality" through a pilot study being conducted by SCCWRP and the SWRCB. Ultimately, all discharges to ASBSs will have to meet the criteria of natural water quality.

July 4th permit coordination efforts

Deirdre Hall, Permit Coordinator, spent significant time coordinating with the Office of Protected Resources in Silver Spring, local municipalities and organizations, and area marine mammal monitors to ensure that the July 4th fireworks displays permitted by the MBNMS were conducted pursuant to the NMFS Letter of Authorization which allows the incidental harassment of marine mammals and the US Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion. A Federal Register Notice was released on July 2, 2008, and explains this issue and the history in more detail.

Regional water quality data synthesis effort expanded

SIMoN staff is working to bring together water quality data sets collected by multiple organizations that monitor coastal watersheds draining to the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries. The data integration approach is modeled after the Central Coast Water Quality Data Synthesis, Assessment, and Management (SAM) project, which involved compilation and analysis of data sets collected in watersheds and nearshore environments of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary. Regional synthesis of water quality information is needed to not only continue to inform managers and scientists about water quality conditions, but to also assess effectiveness of infrastructure and habitat restoration aimed at treating or eliminating land based pollutants. This work will help transition into a more comprehensive regional approach to water quality assessment and management.

Network Wraps up Expanded Dry Season Monitoring

Sunday, July 20th, was the final date of expanded dry season monitoring for the Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network (Network). Network staff led 12 volunteers to monitor 24 storm drains in Seaside, Monterey, Pacific Grove, and Carmel--a total of 48 volunteer hours. While dry season monitoring in Pacific Grove and Monterey will continue until the First Flush, this was the final event for monitoring expanded sites as contracted by the Stormwater and Education Alliance. Monitoring results will be available in September.

Emergency Response and Enforcement

MBNMS Cooperative Enforcement Training Workshop Conducted at San Simeon

On May 21, Scott Kathey and Officer Bob Yerena conducted a Sanctuary enforcement workshop for 25 California State Park Rangers, California Fish & Game Wardens, and U.S. Coast Guard boarding officers. The workshop provided training on MBNMS regulations, Federal species protection statutes, and cooperative enforcement policies and procedures. The training was held at Hearst Castle State Park in San Simeon and will be repeated next September for enforcement partners in the Monterey area. The training went well and reinforced the cooperative relationships that have been established between the MBNMS, OLE, USCG, and State enforcement partners.

R/V *FULMAR* Completes Successful Resource Protection Mission

On May 29, Dave Lott and Scott Kathey coordinated use of the *R/V FULMAR* for a test of the CBNMS Phantom ROV as an underwater platform for inspecting regulatory buoys to depths of 275 feet. The test provided a successful comparison of the logistical requirements of the Phantom to those of smaller ROV units currently under consideration for similar tasks. It also provided useful assessment of mooring conditions and seafloor conditions at two mooring sites.

Grounding and Successful Recovery of 26-ft Sailboat

On June 1, a 26-ft sailboat ran aground at Point Ano Nuevo with 15 gallons of gasoline aboard. There were two people on board at the time and no injuries. No spills were reported. State Parks rangers responded and NOAA OLE monitored the incident. The vessel owner contracted with a salvor who towed the vessel to Santa Cruz for repairs to the hull and keel. Quick recovery of the vessel prevented a fuel spill and potentially serious physical damage to MBNMS resources.

Participation In Regional Emergency Response Preparation

On June 10, Scott Kathey participated in a regional discussion to develop and refine several regional sanctuary protocols that will provide critical and timely information to sanctuary management in the event of a resource emergency. The protocols will help sanctuary decision makers determine staff resources and skill sets available during an emergency. This is part of ongoing efforts to enhance sanctuary response protocols as a result of lessons learned from the 2007 Cosco Busan spill in San Francisco Bay.

Coordinating Spill Response Activities With the State

On June 18, Scott Kathey and Michele Roest participated in discussions with spill response biologists from the CA Department of Fish and Game to describe the MBNMS role and interests in wildlife protection strategies during a spill. The meeting covered spill response topics such as response training, access to environmental data sets, cleanup endpoint expectations, over flight disturbance, preemptive wildlife capture and hazing, oiled bird recovery, beach surveys, and volunteer roles during spills. This is part of a continuing effort to enhance communications and collaboration between federal and state response personnel as a result of lessons learned from the 2007 Cosco Busan spill in San Francisco Bay.

USCG Stepping Up Oil Spill Drill Schedule and Pre-Staged Response Equipment

On July 10, Scott Kathey attended the USCG/OSPR Central Coast Area Committee Meeting for oil spill response. Coast Guard representatives announced that a command directive has been issued to assure that oil spill preparation drills be completed on a regular basis, as was done prior to September 2001. The Coast Guard will be devoting additional resources for such drills for the central coast of California. This may require an added commitment of resources from sanctuaries as drill planning and execution proceed. In addition, the Coast Guard will reorganize, refurbish, and redeploy federal oil spill emergency response trailers within the MBNMS in coordination with pre-staged equipment being secured by Monterey and Santa Cruz Harbors through the state. The trailers are designed to support initial oil spill response efforts, but have limited capacity.

New Commander for Coast Guard Station Monterey

On July 18, 2008, LT Marc Warren passed command of Coast Guard Station Monterey to LT Mike Kahle in a ceremony at the station. The new commander will be a key player in current deliberations to move MBNMS offices to the station.

EDUCATION, VOLUNTEER AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Monterey's Team OCEAN Begins its 9th Year on the Water

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Team Ocean Conservation Education Action Network (Team OCEAN) kayak naturalist program started its 9th year on the water in Elkhorn Slough and along Cannery Row in Monterey. This program is designed to prevent marine mammal and nesting bird harassment by on the water visitors (kayakers, boaters, etc...) and to provide on the water interpretation about sanctuary resources. The 2008 season is starting off with 20 new volunteers who completed a combined training class with the Monterey Bay Aquarium's new volunteer guides, bringing the total team OCEAN volunteer cadre to 50. Team OCEAN volunteers, received training on a variety of local marine habitats, marine animals, sanctuary regulations and basic interpretation. Along with the Team OCEAN volunteers, 5 new Bay Net volunteers also completed the training class and are out doing shoreline interpretation about the sanctuary in the Cities of Monterey and Pacific Grove.

Multicultural Marine Education Briefings on Hill

Staff from the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary visited with four members of the US House of Representatives (Hon. Sam Farr, Hon. Lois Capps, Hon. Anna Eschoo and Hon. Jim Costa) during Capitol Hill Oceans Week, to highlight the growing need for ocean literacy programming tailored to specific constituent groups. Visits were arranged through the West Coast Regional Office and the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation to highlight the Multicultural Education for Resources Issues Threatening Ocean's (MERITO) program at the Monterey Bay and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuaries.

MBNMS advises marine conservation group

Michele Roest sits on the advisory committee for SLOSEA: San Luis Obispo Science and Education Alliance. The group, which has funding from the Resource Legacy Fund Foundation, met June 3-5 to develop a marine and estuary conservation strategy for San Luis Obispo County, CA. The group prioritized eleven issues that are consistent with NMSP goals, including monitoring of pollutants, researching tourism impacts to marine areas, and improving harbor dredging.

Sanctuary Staff Celebrate World Ocean Day

On June 7th and 8th, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary staff and volunteers dedicated 20 hours to sharing ocean literacy and watershed messages with visitors to the Monterey Bay Aquarium as part of 2008 World Ocean Day celebrations on the central California coast. MBNMS staff and volunteers led watershed model demonstrations, informed children and adults about what they could do to protect the sanctuary and excited many teachers with BWET and Ocean Literacy Principals and Fundamental Concepts brochures. Over 14,000 people attended the two day event and ~450 people interacted with the MBNMS booth.

Smithsonian Ocean Hall Kiosk Proposal: Life in a Kelp Forest

Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) scientists and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary education staff collaborated on a proposal for the Smithsonian Ocean Hall Kiosk. The 2.5 minute Life in a Kelp Forest video will introduce audiences to kelp forests, highlight their critical role in the coastal marine ecosystems of central California and the role of the MBNMS in research and monitoring.

MBNMS Works with NOAA Weather on Weather Kiosk Proposal

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary education staff are working with NOAA Weather Service staff to outline a proposal to NOAA West to fund a weather kiosk for the MBNMS Exploration Center in Santa Cruz. The first two meetings have created tremendous momentum and all parties are working a identifying the main concepts and infrastructure required to bring the idea to

fruition. The weather station had previously be "value engineered out," of the project, but a conversation at a joint NOAA event spurred the collaboration. One NOAA at work!

Vans Warped Tour returns to Monterey

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary education staff coordinated conservation activities for the second Vans Warped Tour event in Monterey. In partnership with EarthEcho International, the MBNMS hosted ~300 volunteers comprised of the touring band members and their crews. On Tuesday, August 12, participants worked with a variety of agencies in the Monterey Bay region to clean up watersheds and beaches, remove invasive plants and seaweed, stencil storm drains, and plant native plants. Participants of last year's conservation day were so engaged and excited, they requested the encore.

Coastal Discovery Fair a Success

On July 19, The Coastal Discovery Center at San Simeon Bay held a Coastal Discovery Fair to celebrate the second anniversary of the Coastal Discovery Center. Partner agencies and non-profits participated in the kid-friendly event, which boasted exhibit booths, interactive activities and gifts. Congresswoman Lois Capps, who attended the Grand Opening of the Coastal Discovery Center in 2006, also stopped by. An estimated 800 visitors attended the event, doubling the attendance from last year.



A participant from Warped Tour '07 explains to Philippe Cousteau how to remove *Undaria*.

Photo Credit: Nicole Capps

MBNMS MERITO – Salinas needs assessment

On July 16th and 25th MERITO staff met with volunteer staff from 'Sustainable Salinas', a community action group associated to the larger grassroots organization 'Sustainable Monterey County', whose mission is "to promote an orderly transition through fossil fuel decline and climate change disruptions [...] educate individuals, businesses, and government officials, with clear calls to action for a stronger economic and environmentally sustainable future in the Monterey County region." MERITO and Sustainable Salinas staffs are starting a collaboration to develop project-based outreach opportunities to engage a large spectrum of the Salinas population in environmental stewardship action.

MBNMS MERITO staff support MERITO Academy field trips

During the month July 2008, Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening MERITO reached 50 students in existing MERITO Academy After-school Programs. MERITO has introduced 400 students to its MERITO Academy program during the 2007-2008 academic year. This sanctuary and BWET funded program provides hands-on, inquiry based watershed and ocean science experiences for 5th to 8th grade students who are predominately English language learners. Activities included hiking at Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (ESNERR) and the use of ESNERR's plankton lab.

MBNMS MERITO Academy students receive Camp SEA Lab scholarship

During the week of July 7-11, 2008, 9 MERITO youth participated in Camp SEA Lab's Fishing for Adventure Residential Camp at California State University Monterey Bay. Activities included snorkeling, squid and fish dissections, and trips to the Monterey Bay Aquarium and Maritime Museum of Monterey. MERITO students were awarded full scholarships to attend the camp that were made possible by a NOAA Environmental Ocean Literacy grant. MERITO staff will be collaborating with Camp SEA Lab over a three-year period to provide MERITO students with the opportunity to attend Camp Sea Lab summer sessions.

SIGNIFICANT NEWS COVERAGE

6/11/08 – San Francisco Chronicle, “Register to fish in federal waters”

6/15/08 – Monterey County Herald, “Cruise ships make case for relaxing new discharge rules”
By Wesley Loy, Anchorage Daily News

6/16/08 – Register Pajaronian, “ Scuba divers encouraged to participate in educational foundation’s Great Annual Fish Count”

6/22/08 – redOrbit.com, “San Francisco Bay Becoming Oil Slick” by Anonymous

6/26/08 – Metro Santa Cruz, “Nūz: Santa Cruz County News Briefs”

7/1/08 – Santa Cruz Sentinel, “Frank Ribeiro found a 110-pound, 10-foot long octopus while hauling up one of his crab pots 12 miles southwest of Pigeon Point on Monday”

7/1/08 – San Luis Obispo Tribune, “Population of threatened otters seems to be leveling” by David Sneed

7/1/08 – Oakland Tribune, “Cosco Busan pilot will retire, will not testify at conduct hearing”

7/2/08 – Monterey County Herald, “Boatload of sardines: Fishermen take in decent haul on opening day in Monterey”

7/11/08 – Salinas Californian, “4 sentenced for taking abalone in Big Sur”

7/16/08 – San Luis New Times, “Taking watch on the Montebello”

7/17/08 – Monterey County Weekly, “To protect turtles, California state legislators pass a resolution to ban long line fishing. The federal fisheries council may not care”

7/19/08 – San Francisco Chronicle, “California tangles with U.S. to save turtles”

7/24/08 – San Francisco Chronicle, “Felony charges for ship's management”

7/24/08 – San Francisco Chronicle, “Air board OKs toughest limits on ship exhausts”

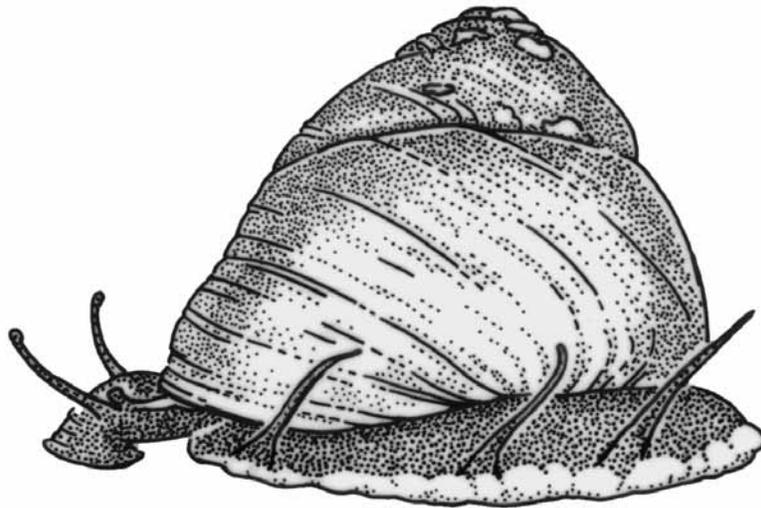
7/25/08 – Los Angeles Times, “California adopts stiff pollution rules for ships”

7/28/08 – San Luis Tribune, “New desal intake spot identified in Cambria”

7/30/08 – San Jose Mercury News, “California considers ban on plastic bags to protect marine life”

UPCOMING SANCTUARY EVENTS CALENDAR

<i>12-Sep</i>	Research Activity Panel (RAP) Meeting, CDFG, Monterey. Contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213
<i>13-Sep</i>	First Flush Training for Half Moon Bay. Contact Anna Holden-Martz at (831) 647-4227.
<i>16-Sep</i>	First Flush Training for Santa Cruz & Capitola. Contact Anna Holden-Martz at (831) 647-4227.
<i>18-Sep</i>	First Flush Training for Monterey County. Contact Anna Holden-Martz at (831) 647-4227.
<i>20-Sep</i>	Dry run sampling event. Contact Anna Holden-Martz at (831) 647-4227.
<i>24-25-Sep</i>	Central Coast Wetland Working Group Symposium. Time and location TBA. Contact Bridget Hoover at (831) 647-4217.
<i>17-Oct</i>	Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting, Cambria. Contact Nicole Capps at (831) 647-4206
<i>14-Nov</i>	Research Activity Panel (RAP) Meeting, Moss Landing Marine Labs. Contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213
<i>19-Dec</i>	Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting, Monterey. Contact Nicole Capps at (831) 647-4206



WEB SITE (<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/>)

Recent Updates

Visit the web pages listed below to see recently updated sections of the MBNMS web site.

- MBNMS Decision Rationale regarding the need for MPAs in the sanctuary
http://www.montereybay.noaa.gov/resourcepro/resmanissues/mpa/041508mpa_rationale.html

*Please take a few moments to peruse the site. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.
Comments and suggestions can be sent to andrew.white@noaa.gov.*

FUN, OCEAN RELATED WEB SITES

Encyclopedia of the Sanctuaries

<http://www.ocean.com/Library/Encyclopedia/>

Oceans Live

<http://www.oceanslive.org/portal/>

SIMON

www.mbnms-simon.org

National Marine Sanctuary Program

<http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/>

NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science

<http://coastalscience.noaa.gov/>

National Estuarine Research Reserve System

<http://nerrs.noaa.gov/>

NOAA Ocean Explorer

<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/>

National Data Buoy Center

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/rmd.shtml>

National Ocean Service

<http://www.nos.noaa.gov/>

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

<http://www.noaa.gov/>

Thank You Ocean

<http://www.thankyouocean.org/>

Learn More About Your Sanctuary

The Sanctuary Office Report is produced bi-monthly by the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in conjunction with Sanctuary Advisory Council meetings. To learn more about the Sanctuary please visit our web site at: <http://www.montereybay.noaa.gov>.

To learn more about the Sanctuary Advisory Council please visit:
<http://www.montereybay.noaa.gov/intro/advisory.html>

The National Marine Sanctuary Program

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is one of 14 marine protected areas in the National Marine Sanctuary System that encompass more than 150,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington State to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The system includes 13 national marine sanctuaries and the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Visit the NMSP web site at: <http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/>

Get involved and stay informed!

To learn how to get involved in the Sanctuary visit:
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/educate/internship.html>

Sign up for the MBNMS listserv to receive email notices about upcoming Sanctuary events, and public meetings of the Sanctuary Advisory Council and its Working Groups:
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/discussiongroups/disgroups.html>.



MBNMS Staff

Paul Michel – Superintendent
Karen Grimmer – Deputy Superintendent
Andrew DeVogelaere – Research Coordinator
Erica Burton – Research Assistant
Jennifer Brown – Research Associate
Steve Lonhart – SIMoN Scientist
Jean de Marignac – Field Scientist
Chad King – SIMoN Data Analyst
Josh Pederson – SIMoN Outreach Specialist
Gary Conley – SIMoN Water Quality Analyst
Dawn Hayes – Education & Outreach Coordinator
Liz Love – Education Specialist
Lisa Emanuelson – Resource Issue Ed Specialist
Sonya Padron – Bilingual Education Specialist
Michele Roest – Education & Outreach Specialist, San Simeon Office
Lisa Uttal – Education and Outreach Specialist
Mike Eng – Resource Protection Coordinator
Scott Kathey – Regulatory Coordinator
Deirdre Hall – Permit Coordinator
Brad Damitz – Environmental Policy Specialist
Lisa Lurie – Agriculture Water Quality Coordinator
Bridget Hoover – WQ Protection Program Director
Anna Holden – Water Quality Network Coordinator
Lisa de Marignac – Environmental Policy Specialist
Lisa Wooninck – Resource Protection Specialist
Raymond Chisolm – Program Specialist
Nicole Capps – Advisory Council Coordinator
Christian Walters – Administrative Assistant
Andrew White – Network Manager
Sophie De Beukelaer – GIS Analyst
David Minard – R/V Fulmar Captain
Hans Burning – R/V Fulmar Operator
Erik Larson – R/V Fulmar Operator
Jaime Wasser – Marine Ops Coordinator/NOAA Corps
Hugo Selbie – Sea Grant Fellow

- Contact Information -

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

299 Foam Street
Monterey, CA 93940
Phone (831) 647-4201
Fax (831) 647-4250