



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Sanctuary Office Report



Volume 6, Number 3

A REPORT FOR THE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

REPORTING PERIOD: APRIL 6, 2009 – JUNE 1, 2009

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 6,094 square statute 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 OFFICE OF NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES (ONMS) NEWS

International Conference on Marine Mammal Protected Areas

Last week, NOAA's HIHWNMS hosted the First Conference on Marine Mammal Protected Areas, on Maui, at which both Jack Dunnigan and Dan Basta gave keynote addresses. The conference was attended by over 200 managers, scientists and educators from approximately 40 countries. For the first time, this venue gave attendees an opportunity to learn from each other, and discuss the many similar challenges and successes that come along with understanding and managing highly mobile marine mammals with an area-based approach. All immediate feedback suggested that this gathering was long overdue, as there had not heretofore been a venue to address these issues, and that it was considered a tremendous success. Several countries (Australia and the U.S.) and NGOs (IFAW Oceania and WDCS) used the venue to make

announcements about major discoveries and initiatives, including the discovery of a previously unknown population of Irawaddy river dolphins in Bangladesh, and a massive, international collaborative research project in the Southern Hemisphere. In addition, representatives from the Government of France made a strong commitment to hosting the "Second Conference" in 2012 in France.

Sanctuaries and Team Awarded Department of Commerce Medal

On April 7, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) Director Dan Basta accepted a Department of Commerce Bronze Medal on behalf of staff from Gulf of the Farallones, Cordell Bank, and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries, the Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association, more than 100 Beach Watch volunteers, and the Resource Protection Team at ONMS HQ for providing outstanding response, damage assessment, and public affairs support during and following the M/V Cosco Busan oil spill in San Francisco Bay on November 7, 2007. Staff and volunteers offered key support to ensure protection of NOAA's trust resources and sanctuaries. These efforts were vital to minimizing additional economic and environmental harm to Bay Area communities. By providing key data to responders and conducting critical shoreline assessments these workers lent credibility to the response effort and improved NOAA's standing with the public and Congress. Further, the 15-year Beach Watch dataset offered invaluable background / baseline information for tarball and oiled bird recoveries on the outer coast.

First NOAA Oral History Workshop and Training Takes Place at the NOAA Science Center

More than 40+ NOAA staff, both from headquarters and the field, were invited to participate in a 2 1/2 day workshop in an effort to bring together NOAA staff currently involved in NOAA oral history collection activities and share information about projects, begin to identify best practices, and participate in training designed to improve the quality of the oral histories that are being collected. The need has emerged as the number of NOAA staff engaged in collecting oral histories that document and preserve the agency's heritage, and build data resources that document the human experience with the natural environment that come under NOAA's purview has grown. The workshop included a poster session that highlighted 16 projects underway across NOAA programs. NOAA Preserve America Initiative sponsored the workshop and training.

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS

Channel Islands NMS

A report was received on the afternoon of May 21 that five northern right whale dolphins had stranded on beaches adjacent to the pier at Bechers Bay, Santa Rosa Island, in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS). Initial reports indicated there were two dead animals and three still alive. Working together with the NMFS Southwest Regional Office of Protected Resources, CINMS staff quickly arranged for the NOAA Twin Otter aircraft (NOAA-56) stationed on the west coast to fly over and around the stranding site. During that flight, two stranded northern right whale dolphins were observed (one alive, one dead) by Ben Waltenberger and Natalie Senyk, but no others were seen along several miles of adjacent shorelines and open waters. Staff collected information on location and details of the stranded individuals, and took photos. On May 22nd, NMFS staff and local stranding coordinator Michelle Berman visited the site to recover the animals so that testing could be done to help understand the cause of death. Also, a chartered aircraft that had been conducting NMFS surveys this week was utilized to help continue to look for additional stranded animals. No further information was available at the time of this writing.

Flower Garden Banks NMS

Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary teamed up with University of Texas at Austin (UT) to give future ocean scientists hands-on experience in their field of study. The sanctuary's R/V *Manta* worked out of Port Aransas, TX supporting science at sea for UT's Institute of Geophysics. From May 25-29, three UT instructors, three marine technicians, and eleven graduate students embarked on the *Manta* daily to collect seismic data using a portable multi-channel seismic system. Students learned how to safely deploy and recover a sub-bottom profiler (CHIRP), a seismic air gun (producer), and a seismic streamer (receiver) which were towed simultaneously behind the vessel. The students designed study areas to locate old river channels that used to run through Corpus Christi and Port Aransas Bay, acquired the data, and began to process it the next day, with direction by the instructors. To complement the data being acquired off the *Manta*, a university run small boat, the *Itasca*, surveyed the same areas towing a side scan sonar and pole-mounted multibeam system.

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale NMS

State staff with the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary provided key support to the National Marine Fisheries Service in successfully tracking, capturing, treating, and releasing a Hawaiian monk seal that had been hooked in the mouth with a fishing hook. State sanctuary operations coordinator, David Nichols, provided essential support over a weeklong period during which the seal was tracked and several unsuccessful capture attempts were made. On Sunday, May 3, the team was able to capture the adult male seal, nicknamed Kermit, on a beach in Ewa, Oahu. The team successfully removed a large hook that is typically used locally in shorecasting for ulua (jacks). Kermit is a well known seal to the numerous NOAA volunteers who monitor the endangered marine mammals, rope the seals off as needed when they haul out, and conduct public education to beach goers. This successful response is another example of the strong partnership for monk seal protection that exists between the State of Hawaii, NOS HIHWNMS, and NMFS.

Olympic Coast NMS

The Center for Biological Diversity filed a lawsuit on May 14 in U.S. District Court in Seattle against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency over the agency's failure to recognize the impacts of ocean acidification on waters off the state of Washington. Although Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary was not specifically mentioned, the basis for the lawsuit was from a publication on decreasing pH values (ocean acidification) from a university study on marine waters surrounding Tatoosh Island that are within the sanctuary. The suit was brought under the Clean Water Act and is the first to address ocean acidification.

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

The Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Condition Report is now available! This report summarizes the conditions and trends for the monument's water, habitat, living, and maritime archaeological resources. In general, the health of most monument resources is rated as either "good" or "good/fair." The Condition Report can be downloaded at: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/science/condition/>.

Thunder Bay NMS

On Tuesday, May 5, 2009, Thunder Bay NMS unveiled Thunder Bay and Alpena's joint marketing campaign with Pure Michigan. The Alpena Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and supporting partners are conducting the largest tourism marketing campaign in Alpena's history with a Travel Michigan/Pure Michigan partnership. The campaign features a radio ad recorded by actor Tim Allen. The program included a brief presentation on the Pure Michigan campaign and the official introduction of the new radio commercial.



MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS AND PROGRAM UPDATES



MANAGEMENT

MBNMS hosts Italian MPA Manager to Continue Development of a Sicilian/Monterey Student Exchange Program

Enzo Incontro, MPA manager for Plemmirio Marine Protected Area, visited the MBNMS to continue joint development of a student exchange program with Sicily. Partners in the program include the MBNMS, the Sicilian office of the National Association for Emigrant Families, the Regional (Sicilian) Association for the Protection of Environment, and the Plemmirio Marine Protected Area. Year one of the program includes six Sicilian students (ages 14-17) hosted in Monterey during the last week in July by a group of six Monterey high students and their families. Together they will participate in seven days of education and outreach experiences to meet the following goals:

- promote Sicilian cultural connections between the two communities,
- improve appreciation for fishing in both countries, and
- expand appreciation for ocean conservation in sanctuaries and marine protected areas

During the July program, the Plemmirio Marine Protected Area film crew will be filming and photo documenting the shared cultural journey. A series of videos and perhaps production quality videos will be produced and marketed to Italian and American television audiences. Year two includes a trip to Sicily for the Monterey students in June 2010 and participation in the Monterey Santa Rosalia Festival in September 2010.

ONMS enters into Memorandum of Agreement with EPA, State of California, and the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)

Daniel J. Basta, along with the senior management from the EPA, The State of California (various agencies of CA) and the AMBAG have initiated a Memorandum of Agreement to collaborate on environmental issues in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS). By execution of this Agreement, all parties have created the framework for ONMS and the other parties to provide an ecosystem-based water quality management process that integrates the mandates and expertise of existing coastal and ocean resource and land-use managers. The scope of work outlined in this Agreement allows the partners to protect the nationally significant resources, qualities, and compatible uses of the MBNMS and the water quality in the watersheds that drain into the MBNMS.

Semi-Annual Meeting with AMBAG and MBNMS

On May 7th, MBNMS and AMBAG staff conducted the 3rd joint information-sharing meeting for local government staff to attend and learn more about sanctuary activities. About a dozen city and county staff participated in the meeting held at Moss Landing Marine Lab. After an introduction by Paul Michel, MBNMS Superintendent and John Doughty, AMBAG Executive Director, topics covered by staff presentations included dredge disposal issues, water discharge issues, coastal erosion in north and south counties and motorized personal watercraft. City of Monterey Harbormaster continued to question the process for updating MPWC regulations.

RESEARCH AND MONITORING

First Expedition to Davidson Seamount Since Its Inclusion Into the MBNMS

Dr. James Barry from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) has a series of experiments on global climate change in the deep sea near the Davidson Seamount Management Zone. While these experiments were in progress during the week of March 30th, side expeditions were made to Davidson Seamount to begin implementing the new Action Plan for this area. MBARI and the MBNMS are collaborating on long-term monitoring, modeling deep-sea coral distribution, and predictions of change to the deep-sea due to ocean acidification.

SIMoN staff lectures on kelp forests to docents of Oakland Museum of California

From April 6, SIMoN staff and Lisa Uttal were invited to the Oakland Museum of California (OCMA). Each month OCMA docents attend guest lectures by visiting scientists and educators covering one of the topics included in the Natural Sciences section of the

museum. The lecture covered a brief overview of the sanctuary, including the recent addition of Davidson Seamount, and a more detailed discussion focused on the diversity of life found within central California kelp forests. After the lecture, staff visited the museum and was impressed by the life-like displays of fishes, kelp and invertebrates. This provided some very useful and timely information to Lisa Uttal regarding the development of exhibits for the Santa Cruz visitor's center.

MBNMS launches Lost Fishing Gear Project in partnership with SeaDOC Society and Cal Dept of Fish & Game

The R/V *Fulmar* conducted the first phase of the MBNMS Lost Fishing Gear Project, in partnership with UC Davis' SeaDoc Society and the California Department of Fish & Game, with data support provided by NOAA Fisheries in Santa Cruz. The April 13-17 side scan cruise represents phase one in implementing a multi-year project to remove lost fishing gear from the MBNMS. The dual purpose of the project is to reduce benthic and pelagic hazards to marine organisms posed by fishing debris lost on the bottom, and provide outreach tools that would assist in the location of lost gear via reports from divers, researchers, and fishermen. The April side scan sonar cruise was used to ground truth and survey three priority. Phase two will occur in fall and will focus on ROV reconnaissance and potential gear retrieval at the above sites as well as deeper areas such as Portuguese Ledge where a number of potential targets have been identified through NOAA Fisheries Delta sub video data.

Second Expedition to Davidson Seamount Since Its Inclusion Into the MBNMS

Dr. James Barry from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) has a series of experiments on global climate change in the deep sea, including the Davidson Seamount Management Zone. MBARI and the MBNMS are collaborating on long-term monitoring, modeling of deep-sea coral distribution, and predictions of change to the deep-sea due to ocean acidification. During April 15-17, Sanctuary staff collaborated with MBARI scientists to transplant bamboo corals to deeper depths, and to collect clams for shipboard studies of metabolic rate changes in response to elevated CO₂ levels. In addition, several animals (sponge, coral, hydroid, hemichordate) were collected for taxonomic identification. This expedition was a follow-up to the March 30th survey, to begin implementing the new MBNMS Action Plan for the Davidson Seamount Management Zone.

Graduate student studies invasive kelp in Monterey Harbor

On April 15, SIMoN staff assisted Moss Landing Marine Lab graduate student Brynn Hooton while she began a study in Monterey Harbor involving the invasive Asian kelp, *Undaria pinnatifida*, which invaded the harbor in 2001. Since 2003 the sanctuary has led a program to monitor and manage the spread of this invader. Ms. Hooton is investigating the relationship between native fishes and the invasive kelp, and particular several small species that utilize the invader as habitat. Spotted and crevice kelpfish, along with kelp gunnels, are often collected with *Undaria*, and it is believed these fishes use the spatially complex sporophylls of the kelp to avoid predators. Brynn collected large *Undaria* and captured several fishes during this first attempt. This is part of an on-going effort to better understand the ecological impact the invasive kelp.

MBNMS Research Staff Assist with CDFG Fish Surveys in Carmel Bay

On April 29 and 30, three research staff divers assisted the California Department of Fish and Game conduct subtidal fish surveys off of the R/V *Fulmar* in Carmel Bay. The purpose of these surveys is to quantify the diversity and abundance of key fish species, but also for mark and recapture estimates, as more than 2,000 fish have been tagged by CDFG over the past several years. MBNMS research staff will be assisting CDFG on four additional days over the next two weeks. On May 18 and 19, two more research staff divers assisted the California Department of Fish and Game in these surveys.

MBNMS Investigates Cetacean Carcass Disposal

A California gray whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*) calf was found floating dead off Santa Cruz. While attempts were made to tow the carcass back out to sea, the body of the 25 foot long female cetacean floated back to shore, and became stranded in a small cove. The decision was made to bury the remains in the city's landfill. Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) staff created a report on the event (which can be found on the SIMoN Sporadic Events webpage:

http://www.sanctuariesimon.org/monterey/sections/other/sporadic_events.php) and investigated other ways of disposing of cetacean carcasses throughout history.

Marine debris tracking project posted on SIMoN web site

On May 14, SIMoN staff added a marine debris-tracking project to the SIMoN database, which in turn dynamically generates a publicly viewable web page (see http://sanctuariesimon.org/monterey/sections/beaches/project_info.php?projectID=100349&sec=b) displaying the project's metadata (i.e. the who, what, where, when, and why). Save Our Shores (SOS) is a non-profit marine conservation organization in Santa Cruz, California, whose mission is marine conservation through policy research, education and citizen involvement. In an effort to develop baseline data and measure the effectiveness of litter abatement programs, SOS developed a marine debris tracking system in April 2007, with a redesign in 2008 by a statewide steering committee for use by organizations across California and compatible with the International Coastal Cleanup Day data set. Volunteers collect standardized information on debris

found during beach and river cleanups, reporting the data to an online clearinghouse. SOS manages and provides the data via the SOS website. Portions of this project have been funded by the NOAA Marine Debris Program and the California State Coastal Conservancy.

Davidson Seamount is an official feature on MBNMS Website

The Davidson Seamount is an official feature on the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary website (<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/>). As a result of management plan revision, a seven-year process involving public input and agency collaboration, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) expanded to include the Davidson Seamount in 2009. Information about the Davidson Seamount Management Zone, including Facts & Figures, can be found at <http://montereybay.noaa.gov/research/dsmz/welcome.html>. Additional information will be added to the Davidson Seamount web page, including a Site Characterization.

Sanctuary Water Quality Data Used for Impaired Waterbody List

The MBNMS Water Quality Protection Program commented on a draft 2008 303d list that identifies water bodies on the Central Coast that do not meet the criteria for specific beneficial uses. The additional data provided by the sanctuary's Synthesis, Assessment, and Management (SAM) project, helped to add approximately 500 new listings. This new information does not infer that water quality has gotten worse; rather we now have the capability to compile large, long-term data sets of comparable quality to better inform resource managers.

RESOURCE PROTECTION

Water Quality Data Informs Local Feasibility Study

On April 6th, 2009, Bridget Hoover, Director, Water Quality Protection Program, met with an environmental engineer for Malcom Pirnie consultants to discuss the feasibility study to divert both dry weather flow and storm water into a detention basin in Pacific Grove, CA. The water would be reused to irrigate greenscape in the city and would also reduce the amount of runoff flowing into the MBNMS.

Water quality as well as flow rates were discussed for different drainages in the city.

NOAA Small Boat Training

On April 22, two MBNMS staff finished the NOAA Small Boat Program Personnel Qualifications Standards (PQS) requirements for Class A and Class I boats. Four additional staff will be completing the PQS requirements in the near future. This increase of qualified small boat operators will greatly expand the use of the 30-foot patrol boat, *Sharkcat* for field research and incident response inside and around the Monterey Bay and Peninsula.

MBNMS staff present on MPAs at the Bevan Symposium for Sustainable Fisheries

MBNMS staff was an invited speaker at the annual Bevan Symposium for Sustainable Fisheries hosted by the Washington School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences and NOAA Fisheries. This year's symposium topic was 'Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) – on the Ground and in the Water'. The presentation summarized MPAs as an effective tool for EBFM; how most U.S. MPAs have been implemented with little coordination; and how the MBNMS MPA planning process seeks to enhance MPAs as an ecosystem-based management tool through interagency collaboration and integration with complementary spatial planning/management processes.

Central Coast Geotourism Initiative

MBNMS staff participated in a multi-agency meeting with the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation, and National Geographic to clarify the direction of the Central Coast Geotourism Initiative. Much of the discussion focused around issues related to identifying, sustaining, developing, and marketing geotourism attributes, while strategizing about how to identify collective and shared goals of sustainability. This core group of participants will spend time over the summer contemplating these issues, while simultaneously strengthening potential partnerships, which will aid this effort. September will bring an expanded meeting of invited participants and possible funders to discuss next steps.



Davidson Seamount Management Zone addition to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. (Credit: Chad King/SIMoN/MBNMS)

Volunteers Trained for 10th Anniversary of Snapshot Day

On April 25th and 26th, Water Quality Protection Program staff and the Coastal Watershed Council trained approximately 70 volunteers in Santa Cruz and Monterey counties to monitor water quality on Snapshot Day, May 2nd. The volunteers learned how to test water samples for temperature, pH, conductivity, dissolved oxygen and transparency and collect lab samples for analysis of nitrate, orthophosphate and *E. coli*. Volunteers were assigned to teams that will monitor approximately 180 sites along the Central California coast. May 2nd marks the tenth anniversary of Snapshot Day, which has produced a valuable dataset of water quality information for streams flowing into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.



Snapshot Day volunteers at the hub at REI in Marina.

Credit: Lisa Emanuelson

Multi-sanctuary permit issued to NMFS' Northwest Fishery Science Center

The MBNMS served as the lead in coordinating and issuing a permit to the NWFSC to conduct their long-term mid-water and bottom trawl studies along the West Coast within five national marine sanctuaries.

Sanctuary staff has been working with the NWFSC for the past several months to determine potential impacts of this research trawling upon sanctuary resources, specifically as it relates to take within newly established marine protected areas. Sanctuary staff will continue a dialogue with the NWFSC to better understand their research needs and constraints, while also evaluating impacts, so that we can work towards issuing a multi-year permit starting in 2010.

Urban Watch 2009 Training

On May 28th, 2009, 18 new volunteers and 3 returning attended the Urban Watch 2009 Training for Monterey and Pacific Grove.

Urban Watch volunteers collect weekly water samples from outfalls, and test them for detergents, orthophosphates and ammonia as well as conduct field tests for pH, temperature, and conductivity. The Coastal Watershed Council coordinates Urban Watch for the City of Capitola, 15 people attended their training on May 31st. The Urban Watch season for all cities starts on June 1st.

Sanctuary Facilitates Water Resource Planning Efforts

On May 29, 2009, the WQPP Director hosted a conference call for all six of the Central Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Programs (IRWMPs) from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara. IRWMPs are plans that address water resource issues such as water supply, water quality, flooding, and environmental protection. The CA Dept. of Water Resources requires projects proposed for state funding be included in an IRWMP. The sanctuary is leading the effort to ensure water quality remains a high priority and is facilitating regional collaboration across watersheds.

EDUCATION, VOLUNTEER AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

New MPA Exhibit unveiled at Pacific Grove Natural History Museum

A new exhibit, "Celebrate our Underwater Parks," introducing the public to the California Central Coast network of marine protected areas was on display through June 13, 2009 at the museum. An opening reception attended by more than 100 community members was held on March 28 and Fred Keeley, former CA assembly member and author of the MLPA Act was on hand to give opening remarks. Education staff was heavily involved in the development of the exhibit and related events including a docent training class and public lecture and discussion, "MPA Perspectives." In addition, staff organized a field trip for families with the local Boys and Girls Club that will take place Sunday, April 5. Over 30 participants have signed up to take a guided tour of the exhibit and museum, and then explore the tide pools of nearby Asilomar State Reserve with MBNMS staff.

Sanctuary Currents Symposium and Awards Events

On Saturday April 18th, over 250 community members, researchers, teachers and students attended the 2009 Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary *Currents* Symposium titled *Back to the Future: Preserving the Sanctuary By Exploring Its Past*. Topics covered were answered the questions: "How have ecosystems of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary changed over time?" and "What Role have humans played in shaping the changes?" Seven presentations touched on these questions and made a case for diligent conservation efforts now. The symposium concluded with honoree Dr. Bruce Robison, of the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute delivering the Ricketts Memorial Lecture, *Heroes of Future Past: Deep Pelagic Research in Monterey Bay*. The exhibits room hosted over 40 research posters and 20 exhibitors. Following the Symposium, the MBNMS presented it's annual awards for community member, organization, business, education, research, and public official and recognized volunteers from a variety of Programs. Jon Hubbard was selected as this year's MBNMS's Volunteer of the Year for his 12 years of service with the MBNMS Beach COMBERS program, conducting surveys covering over 575 miles of sanctuary beaches.

MERITO in Watsonville's Earth Day and Día del Niño

On April 26th MBNMS-MERITO staff participated in Watsonville's community event to celebrate Earth Day and Día del Niño (Day of the Child). This annual event hosts over 4,000 visitors every year and it is sponsored by the Public Works & Utilities Department and the Parks and Community Services Department in the City of Watsonville. MERITO has participated in this event for the past seven years, providing a variety of hands-on activities and simple key messages about the MBNMS and the sanctuary program. This year MERITO and other Education staff directly interacted with 756 visitors, most of them being Latino families.



Coastal Discovery Fair and staff updates.

MERITO students participate in the 10th Annual Snapshot Day.

MERITO Academy reaches 90 students during the month of April

During the month of April 2009, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans (MERITO) program reached 90 students in existing MERITO Academy After-school Programs. 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, tidepooling, sand crab monitoring, and an Earth Day celebration.

Camp Sea Lab summer scholarships awarded to 51 MERITO Academy students

On April 14th, 2009, 51 MERITO youth were offered full scholarships to attend weeklong residential and day-camp summer programs offered by Camp SEA Lab. MERITO staff will be collaborating with Camp SEA Lab over a period of three years to provide MERITO students with the opportunity to attend Camp Sea Lab summer sessions. Scholarships for MERITO students are made possible by a NOAA Environmental Ocean Literacy grant.

Coastal Discovery Center Docent Advisory Meeting

On Friday, May 1 MBNMS Ed staff facilitated the May docent advisory meeting. Topics covered were generated by docents and staff and included the May School program schedule, the upcoming docent apprentice training (May 8/9), field experience opportunities, the new History of San Simeon Bay exhibit, planning for the July 18th MBNMS Education Staff hosted a BBQ to appreciate the efforts of the docents and State Parks staff over the past 7 months. They have all gone to great lengths, as have MBNMS staff members who have filled in during while awaiting the start of the new southern region MBNMS Education Specialist.

MERITO Adult students and families participate in Snapshot Day 2009

On May 2nd 2009, the annual volunteer water-quality-monitoring event Snapshot Day had five Spanish-English bilingual teams for the first time in 10 years. The MERITO and Water Quality protection teams at MBNMS have been collaborating since 2008 (and were jointly awarded a grant from the Community Foundation of Monterey County last year) to facilitate higher participation from Latino communities in water quality protection activities around the Monterey Bay. This year's snapshot day had 21 Latino volunteers from the city of Salinas, and the number is likely to increase next year, if funding is provided.

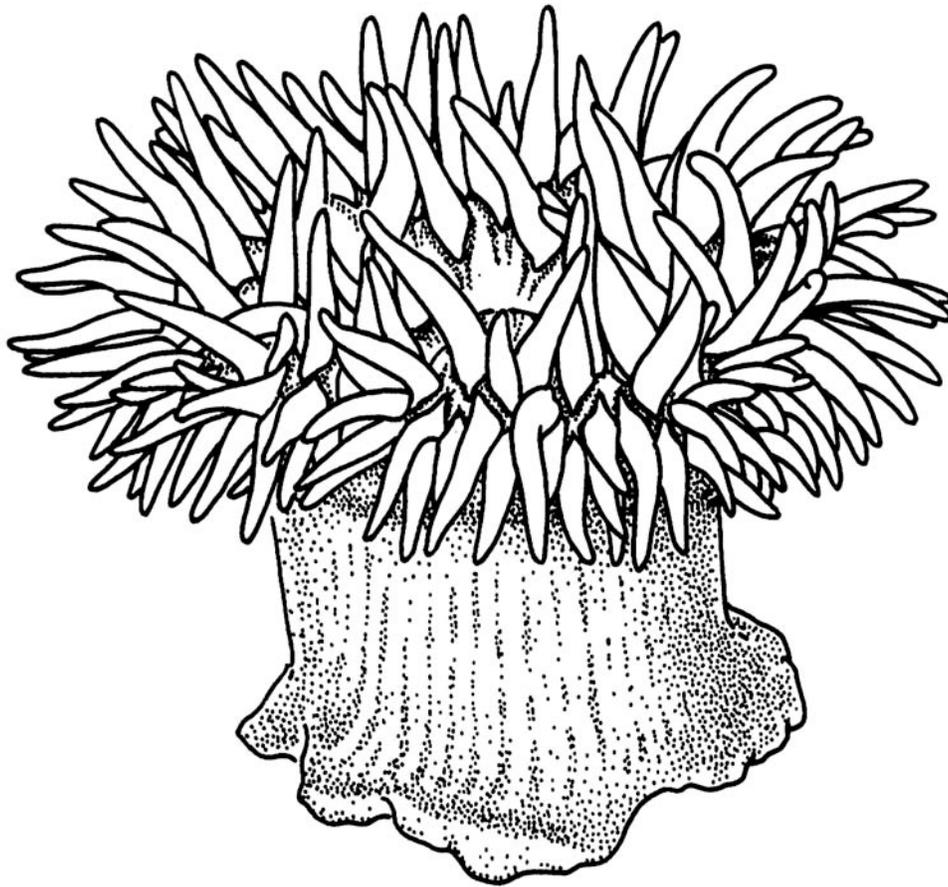
Voices of the Bay Oral History Lesson for Students Presented at Oral History Workshop in Silver Spring

Approximately 40 NOAA Sanctuary, National Fisheries Service, Weather Service and Satellite Information Service staff got together on May 4-7 to share information about their oral history collection activities across the country. At the workshop, the group began to identify best practices to improve the quality of the oral histories taking place, as well as identified ways to better document and

preserve the agency's heritage and to build data resources that document the human experience with the natural environment. Monterey sanctuary staff presented on their unique curriculum lesson activity called "Capturing the Voices", which is part of the Voices of the Bay Fisheries Education Program and was funded by the Preserve America Grant Initiative (PAIG).

MERITO strengthens collaboration across sanctuaries in West Coast Region

On May 27-29, MBNMS and CINMS MERITO staff had a 3-day collaborative working session in the Channel Islands area, during which MBNMS-MERITO staff participated in two CINMS-MERITO Academy field trips. During the three days MERITO staff from both sanctuaries also exchanged ideas about program implementation and worked on a joint grant proposal to the National Science Foundation. This type of staff/program exchange experiences across sanctuaries is critical to strengthen and coordinate regional efforts to stabilize and expand this important program.



SIGNIFICANT NEWS COVERAGE

- 3/31 – MercuryNews.com, “Mavericks Surf Contest window extended to April 8”
- 4/3 – San Francisco Chronicle, “Wipe out this year for big-wave contest”
- 4/3 – CBS5.com, “Santa Cruz: Whale Carcass Removed From Beach and Buried in Landfill”
- 4/4 – San Jose Mercury News, “Dan Haifley, Our Ocean Backyard: Protecting our final frontier”
- 4/5 – Santa Cruz Sentinel, “People urged to give harbor seals space during birthing season”
- 4/10 – City on a Hill Press, “Mavericks Surfers Leave With No Contest”
- 4/11 – Monterey County Herald, “Big Sur bridge project aims to make Highway 1 safer”
- 4/15 – New York Times, “Marine power not ready for prime time, experts say”
- 4/15 – San Jose Mercury News, “Despite protests, offshore oil drilling remains unlikely for Golden State”
- 4/16 – San Jose Mercury News, “As We See It: Don't drill off the coast”
- 4/16 – Scotts Valley/San Lorenzo Valley Press-Banner, “‘Snapshot’ of waterways set”
- 4/17 – Nova News Now, “MORE ABOUT THIS LATER: A Monterey Potpourri “
- 4/18 – Santa Cruz Sentinel, “Our water bodies, ourselves”
- 4/18 – San Jose Mercury News, “Dan Haifley, Our Ocean Backyard: Come take a snapshot of your waterways”
- 4/19 – Monterey County Herald, “Scientists seek clues to save sea”
- 4/20 – PR Newswire, “Terrell Owens Supports Save The Earth Foundation”
- 4/21 – PR Newswire, “Farm to Table & Sea to Platter - Culinary Crop of Splendor Defines Monterey County”
- 4/21 – Monterey County Herald, “TESTING THE WATERS: Sanctuary officials invite community to help”
- 4/23 – Uprising Radio, “EPA Finally Moves to Regulate Cement Kilns”
- 4/29 – Salinas Californian, “Marine 'snapshot day' set for Saturday in Monterey Bay area”
- 4/30 – Salinas Californian, “Marine sanctuary awards presented”
- 5/1 – San Francisco Chronicle, “Hundreds of dead birds on Bay Area beaches”
- 5/13 – San Jose Mercury News, “Santa Cruz bike park to be moved, will be reopened next month in Depot Park”
- 5/14 – CBS5.com, “SF: Deep Flight Super Falcon Submersible Unveiled at CA Academy of Sciences”
- 5/16 – Santa Cruz Sentinel, “Dan Haifley: Protecting life on an undersea volcano”
- 5/17 – San Jose Mercury News, “Santa Cruz kayak company wins congressional award”
- 5/24 – The Age, “Where pipe dreams come true”

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 2008 Accomplishments Report
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/educate/pdf/040709annualreport.pdf>
- Davidson Seamount
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/research/dsmz/welcome.html>
- MBNMS Annual Reports
http://montereybay.noaa.gov/educate/ed_res.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

NOAA Online Media Library

<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/photos>

Encyclopedia of the Sanctuaries

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

Oceans Live

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

SIMON

www.mbnms-simon.org

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

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

NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science

<http://coastalscience.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

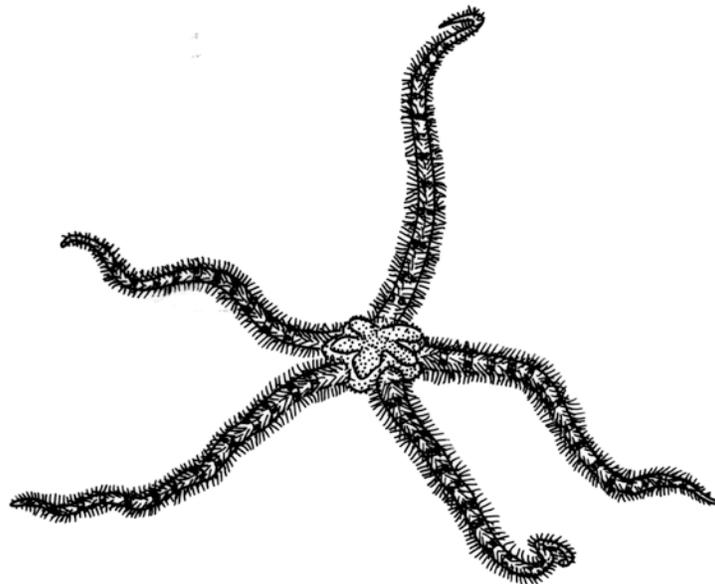
<http://www.noaa.gov/>

Thank You Ocean

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

10-Jul	Research Activity Panel Meeting, NOAA Fisheries, Santa Cruz. Contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213.
16-Jul	Sanctuary Education Panel Meeting, 3:30-5:30. Contact Dawn Hayes at (831) 647-4256.
18-Jul	Coastal Discovery Fair, San Simeon. Contact Dawn Hayes at (831) 647-4256.
21-Aug	Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting, Santa Cruz. Contact Nicole Capps at (831) 647-4206
11-Sep	Research Activity Panel Meeting, Hopkins Marine Station, Pacific Grove. Contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213.
17-Sep	Sanctuary Education Panel Meeting, 3:30-5:30. Contact Dawn Hayes at (831) 647-4256.
16-Oct	Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting, Cambria. Contact Nicole Capps at (831) 647-4206
13-Nov	Research Activity Panel Meeting, MBARI, Moss Landing. Contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213.
19-Nov	Sanctuary Education Panel Meeting, 3:30-5:30. Contact Dawn Hayes at (831) 647-4256.
11-Dec	Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting, Monterey. Contact Nicole Capps at (831) 647-4206



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 Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

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 ONMS 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
Gary Conley – SIMoN Water Quality Analyst
Steve Choy – SeaGrant Fellow
Dawn Hayes – Education & Outreach Coordinator
Liz Love – Education Specialist
Sonya Padron – Bilingual Education Specialist
Lisa Uttal – Visitor Center Project Manager
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
Carolyn Skinder – Southern Education & Outreach Coordinator
Lisa Emanuelson – Citizen Watershed Monitoring 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 Mate
Erik Larson – R/V Fulmar Operator

- Contact Information -

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

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