



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Sanctuary Office Report



Volume 9, Number 1

A REPORT FOR THE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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ABOUT THE SANCTUARY

Designated in 1992, 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. 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

National Marine Sanctuary works with teachers from New York Harbor School on Governor's Island

New York Harbor School, the marine focused public high school located on Governor's Island in New York City began its 18th semester earlier this week. To assist teachers in finding creative ways to incorporate marine science into the students' everyday curriculum, teachers participated in a half-day workshop led by educators from the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. Lessons focused on maritime archeology, ocean acidification, and using NOAA data in the classroom. Students who graduate from the Harbor School complete regular coursework and also complete a Career and Technical Education Program that leads to a certification in one of six marine specialties including Marine Biology Research, Aquaculture, Vessel Operations, Ocean Engineering, Marine Systems Technology, or Scientific Diving.

West Coast National Marine Sanctuaries Receive Funding From NOAA Ocean Acidification Program Office for Communication and Education Workshop

West coast national marine sanctuaries are partnering with Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute to host an Effective Practices for Ocean Acidification (OA) Communication and Education workshop. The workshop will take place immediately following the International Science Symposium, *The Ocean in a High CO2 World: Ocean Acidification*, in Monterey in September 2012. This is a unique opportunity to bring together expert scientists from around the world with professional educators and communicators to determine the most effective way to communicate OA, using west coast communities as places to communicate potential impacts and positive actions. The workshop will focus on California Current ecosystems, food webs, fisheries, and tourism impacts and will link different types of outreach activities to target audiences. Outcomes will include identifying regionally relevant case studies, conducting a literature reviews, identifying existing materials and curriculum, and developing a logic model to outline effective practices for engaging stakeholder audiences. Workshop results can serve as a model for other regions and will help inform the development of a NOAA-wide ocean acidification education plan. Funding to support this workshop is provided by the NOAA Ocean Acidification Program Office.

Tracking Marine Debris from the Japanese Tsunami

Debris from the tsunami that devastated Japan in March could reach the United States as early as this winter, according to predictions by NOAA scientists. However, they warn there is still a large amount of uncertainty over exactly what is still floating, where it's located, where it will go, and when it will arrive. Responders now have a challenging, if not impossible situation on their hands: How do you deal with debris that could now impact U.S. shores, but is difficult to find? For more information on this, including a podcast, visit <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/news/features/dec11/japan-tsunami-debris.html>.

NOAA Launches USS Montior 150th Anniversary Website

On January 30th, NOAA's Office of the National Marine Sanctuaries launched a new website highlighting the 150-year history of the USS *Monitor* on the anniversary of the ship's launch. The website <http://monitor.noaa.gov/150th>, takes viewers from the iconic warship's construction through its recovery to recent science expeditions undertaken to protect its legacy. The website, also offers students, teachers and history enthusiasts a variety of education materials and a calendar of upcoming events celebrating the *Monitor*. In addition to highlighting the *Monitor*'s innovations, the website profiles some of the people associated with it, including Ericsson, the captain and crew. The 1974 discovery of the *Monitor* is featured along with the recovery of the vessel's turret and ongoing conservation of *Monitor* artifacts. *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary also celebrated its 37th anniversary on January 30th. On Jan. 30, 1975, the site of the USS *Monitor* shipwreck was designated as the Nation's first national marine sanctuary. Creation of the sanctuary, located 16 miles southeast of Cape Hatteras, N.C., has helped ensure the long-term protection of the wreck site of the famed Civil War ironclad for all generations.

National Marine Sanctuary News

Channel Islands NMS

New California state marine protected areas (MPAs) went into effect Jan. 1, 2012 from Point Conception in Santa Barbara County to the U.S./Mexico border. The MPAs were developed pursuant to the California Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA). The network of 50 MPAs (including 13 pre-existing MPAs retained and unchanged within the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary) and two special closures covers approximately 354 square miles of state waters and represents approximately 15 percent of the MLPA south coast region. Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary staff assisted with the multi-year process that led to the designation of these new MPAs. At an upcoming meeting on January 20th, the Sanctuary Advisory Council will discuss integration of information about the new MPA sites near the CINMS within existing sanctuary products and programs. Final state regulations and maps for all MPAs: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/scmpas_list.asp.

Florida Keys NMS

On Jan. 13, two men were caught taking coral from Alligator Reef Sanctuary Preservation Area, a no-take zone in Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Good Samaritans from a nearby snorkel boat reported the illegal activity to the authorities, who were able to respond while suspects were still at the reef site. The two visitors from Tennessee had used hammers to remove coral and marine organisms, and were collecting the specimens in mesh bags, reportedly for display in their home aquariums. Sanctuary personnel assisted enforcement officers in documenting the corals and marine organisms, as well as the tools and other evidence. Touching, removing, injuring and possessing coral is prohibited within all waters of the sanctuary. The accused could face civil penalties for violation of sanctuary regulations.

Flower Garden Banks NMS

On Wednesday, February 8, Kelly Drinnen introduced Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary to a standing-room-only crowd at the recently renovated Galveston Fishing Pier in Galveston, TX. Over 90 guests attended this first in a series of Seaside Chats designed to bring the sanctuary to the local community as part of the its 20th anniversary celebration. Following the presentation, a large percentage of attendees stayed to chat with sanctuary staff and find out more about opportunities to volunteer, learn, and support the sanctuary. Our hosts at the Galveston Fishing Pier were pleased to support this event and showcase their newly re-opened facility.

Over the next few weeks a total of five chats will present Coral Reefs of Texas, Romance on the Reef, The New Krewe in Town, A Diver's Eye View, and Manta Rays, Whale Sharks and Turtles, Oh My! Each presentation, conducted by a staff or advisory council member, provides a unique perspective on the sanctuary and the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. More information about these chat topics is available from the sanctuary's online Calendar of Events at <http://flowergarden.noaa.gov/newsevents/calendar.html>

Gulf of the Farallones NMS

Gulf of the Farallones sanctuary, Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association staff, and Beach Watch volunteers are even better prepared for the next oil spill or vessel grounding, having completed their annual eight-hour refresher course for Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) as prescribed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The U.S. Coast Guard Pacific Strike Team conducted the training, which teaches first-responder skills needed to recognize potential hazardous materials that may be encountered during shoreline surveys or vessel grounding incidents, and permits qualified personnel to access closed shoreline areas impacted by oil spills or other hazardous materials. During the 2007 Cosco Busan oil spill in San Francisco Bay, the Farallones Beach Watch program was pre-equipped to mobilize teams and conduct first-light (dawn) beach surveys to determine the extent of the spill and impacts on sanctuary resources. In the early phase of the 2007 spill, the Beach Watch program was singled out for recognition at a congressional subcommittee.

Olympic Coast NMS

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary has completed the first annual report on the implementation of Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary's 2011 management plan. The report covers the 2011 fiscal year. In 2008 the sanctuary began work to update the original 1994 management plan. While the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Final Management Plan and Environmental Assessment were not approved until September 2011, the sanctuary based its FY 2011 Annual Operating Plan on the action plans in the draft management plan available in the summer of 2010. Thus, the sanctuary strove to begin implementation on the non-regulatory parts of the management plan prior to its final approval. The sanctuary refers to FY 2011 as "Year Zero" of the management plan implementation.



MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS AND PROGRAM UPDATES



RESEARCH AND MONITORING

SIMoN web site adds section for Sea Grant Fellows

Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) staff added a web page (http://www.sanctuarysimon.org/regional_sections/simon/simon_seagrant.php) to the SIMoN web site that highlights the achievements of the eight Sea Grant Fellows associated with MBNMS since 1997. All of the Fellows worked at least nine months for MBNMS, and a couple went on to become full-time employees or work for other offices in NOAA. To learn more about the Fellows and their accomplishments, visit the link provided above.

San Jose State University researcher invites SIMoN staff to give lecture

On January 6th, SIMoN staff presented a lecture for undergraduate and graduate students in the Department of Biological Sciences at San Jose State University. The talk focused on ongoing efforts to track changes in native and invasive species in Monterey Harbor, which is ground zero for species invasions in Monterey Bay. Stemming from a seminar given in March 2011, Dr. Lonhart has initiated collaborative research with Dr. Josh Mackie focused on the invasive bryozoan *Watersipora* spp. Dr. Mackie has NSF funding to use genetics to determine the current spatial extent of *Watersipora* on the west coast of the US and to disentangle the species complex.

MBNMS Research Activity Panel Meets at CSU Monterey Bay

On January 13th, the MBNMS Research Activity Panel (RAP) met at California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB), in Seaside, CA. Agenda items included: CSUMB Marine Science Program Update, Conservation Analysis of Spatial Management in the MBNMS, Sentinel Sites, Research Questions Related to Research Areas, Forage Species Science and Management in the MBNMS, Sanctuary Currents Symposium 2012, and Sanctuary Advisory Council update. For information, see <http://http://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/rap/2012/011312rapagenda.html>.

SIMoN staff continues invasive species study in Monterey Harbor

On January 9, SIMoN staff continued to collect photo quadrat data from a series of cement pier pilings in Monterey Harbor. These pilings are infested with multiple invasive species, including the invasive bryozoan *Watersipora subtorquata*. Taken monthly, this time series of digital images from the same locations provides insight on the community dynamics of both invasive and native species, as both algae and invertebrates compete for limited space. Turnover and changes in percent cover, particularly for invasive and cryptogenic species, have been surprisingly fast, operating at scales of days to weeks. Staff was joined by Rietta Hohman (FMSA) and Jessica Moye (CSU Monterey Bay, NOAA Diver), who are interested in diving in support of MBNMS projects, and surveyed all 78 of the pilings on A-tier.

Inaugural Monterey Bay Marine GIS User Group Meeting

MBNMS staff attended the inaugural Monterey Bay Marine Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) User Group meeting at the USGS in Santa Cruz, CA on January 27. The GIS user group will support GIS training, capacity building and increase awareness of marine spatial data sets among the broader GIS science community in Monterey Bay. The goal for this meeting is to foster collaboration among academic, private, state and federal agencies.

Tidal dam dramatically alters water exchange in sanctuary

Staff from the Elkhorn Slough Tidal Wetland Project (TWP) invited members of the Science Panel and Strategic Planning Team to observe the Parsons Slough Sill in action. A mere 350 m from the sanctuary, the Parsons Slough Sill was designed to reduce tidal exchange by about 30% throughout the entire estuary and thereby reduce the rate of erosion occurring within the main channel, which is within MBNMS. Participants viewed the function of the sill from a boat during an extreme tide. As the tide rapidly dropped, a standing wave and extreme turbulence were visible for up to 50 m. TWP staff recorded

verbal comments to questions such as: 1) Does it look the way you expected? 2) Having seen it in action, are there new questions that come to mind? and 3) Does it look like a strategy that is suitable for the slough mouth, at the Highway 1 Bridge?

The Science Panel and Strategic Planning Team were also invited to walk along the edge of an area (Moonglow Dairy) that soon will be reclaimed. Hundreds of acres of salt marsh were diked and drained in the first half of the 1900s to expand agriculture. Subsequent subsidence led to a loss of salt marsh habitat and conversion into shallow water mudflats. Although tidal exchange has been restored, the salt marsh cannot recover unless soil is added to raise the elevation. Specifically the Tidal Marsh Restoration Project plans to restore 17 acres of marsh over the next three years and perhaps 100 acres or more in the years that follow. Soil may come from the adjacent property or by using dredge spoils from the nearby Pajaro River.



Leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) seen in Monterey Bay, CA.

Photo Credit: Mark Cotter

SIMoN Website Describes New Protections for Leatherbacks

On January 24th, the SIMoN website was updated to include information on new federal protections for leatherback sea turtles along the U.S. Pacific Coast, including the marine habitats of NOAA's West Coast Sanctuaries. Approximately 41,914 square miles (108,558 square km) were announced by NMFS as critical habitat for this endangered species, including approximately 16,910 square miles (43,798 square km) along the California coast from Point Arena to Point Arguello east of the 3000 m depth contour. This protection reflects an important decision to protect sea turtle feeding areas in addition to the nesting areas in the Atlantic that were previously designated as critical habitat. A large part of the MBNMS is included in what will be the largest sea turtle protected habitat in the U.S. For more information see

<http://sanctuarysimon.org/news/index.php/2012/01/new-federal-protections-for-leatherback-sea-turtles-announced/>.

Species database adds Ancient Murrelet and Cassin's Auklet

Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) volunteer Carol Maehr and SIMoN staff recently added three more birds (Ancient Murrelet, Cassin's Auklet, and Clapper Rail) to the Species Database, bringing the total number of birds to 46 species and the grand total to 133 species. Carol has synthesized natural history information from print and on-line field guides, distilling them into a concise description and natural history overview. This referenced summary information is entered into the SIMoN species database, which dynamically generates publicly accessible summary postings for each species (go to: <http://www.sanctuarysimon.org/species/index.php>).

Beach COMBERS volunteers alerted to Puffin sightings in Monterey Bay

Live puffins were recently sighted in the Monterey Bay area, including a Tufted Puffin in winter plumage off Del Monte Beach and a Horned Puffin at the Monterey Harbor breakwater. As Beach COMBERS volunteers prepare for monthly beach surveys, Don Roberson (local expert, and keeper of Monterey County bird records; <http://creagrus.home.montereybay.com/>) has requested volunteers to collect dead specimens, or photograph and record any live sightings. Roberson thinks something must be happening offshore to drive these puffins into Monterey Bay, as these birds are uncommon or rare off California. Beach COMBERS (Coastal Ocean Mammal/Bird Education and Research

Surveys) volunteers monitor Monterey Bay beaches to obtain information on rates of stranding for all species of marine birds and mammals. For information on the Beach COMBERS program, see:
<http://www.sanctuarysimon.org/monterey/sections/beachCombers/index.php?l=n>.

SIMoN's online Photo Library hits 4000 digital images

On February 9th, the SIMoN online Photo Library (<http://sanctuarysimon.org/photos/index.php>) exceeded 4000 images for the first time! With new images from Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuaries, the image archive has grown rapidly over the past 6 months. Images consist primarily of species commonly observed within west coast sanctuaries, either along the shore or during a dive. Stunning images include giant kelp covered with thousands of Lion's Mane nudibranchs, lunge-feeding Humpbacks, and the endangered California Clapper Rail.

MBNMS Photo of a Chiton Published in National Geographic Online

National Geographic published a photograph of a lined chiton (*Tonicella lineata*), taken by MBNMS staff, in their online "Daily News" section on April 14, 2011 (link: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2011/04/110414-eyes-rock-crystal-mineral-chiton-mollusk-vision-animals-science/>). The photograph headlined an article ("Eyes Made of Rock Really Can See, Study Says") describing the confirmation that chitons can see with their "rock" eyes, which are actually made of the mineral aragonite. The photograph was obtained through SIMoN's ever-growing online photo library (link: <http://sanctuarysimon.org/photos/index.php>), which now has more than 4,000 fully searchable and downloadable photographs of marine life and scenes from Monterey Bay, Gulf of Farallones, and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries.

RESOURCE PROTECTION

MBNMS partners with American Farmland Trust to assess grower needs

On January 9, MBNMS water quality protection staff partnered with American Farmland Trust to conduct a grower focus group. The goal was to better understand farmers' decision-making process when implementing new irrigation or nutrient management practices, and to understand how to improve support to farmers who want or need to adopt these practices. Nine farmers representing diverse agricultural operations across MBNMS watersheds participated. Their input will help shape the development of future technical support programs on the Central Coast to better serve grower needs. American Farmland Trust is conducting 10 such focus groups across the state of California.

Collaborative opportunity for socio-economic information gathering for EBM Initiative with the California Department of Fish and Game and the MPA Monitoring Enterprise.

MBNMS staff hosted a meeting with state and regional collaborators to discuss how to best leverage and collaborate on collecting socio-economic information for the Central Coast of California. The EBM Initiative has contracted Ecotrust to conduct a socio-economic profile of the region, which will be released soon, and the MPA Monitoring Enterprise is planning for the MLPA 5 year review and has contracted Ecotrust to collect spatially explicit information on the value, displacement and widespread impacts of the MLPA designations. State and federal agencies have identified a number of socio-economic information gaps, and will be working together to leverage resources and achieve mutual goals.

EBM Initiative reaches out to local fishing community members

EBM Initiative reaches out to local fishing community members for informal discussion and input on ecosystem-based management of the MBNMS. A series of informal conversations and meetings were hosted during the week reaching 10 different fishermen representing salmon trollers, sardine, squid, groundfish, albacore, and spot prawn fishermen with the MBNMS. Fishermen provided recommendations on how to facilitate and improve communications with the wider fishing fleet of MBNMS during dialogue with the Superintendent and Resource Management staff. Several fishermen voiced concerns about specific fisheries and ecosystem components and identified a number of ways that the MBNMS can further promote sustainable fisheries.

IEA Communications

EBM Initiative staff is working with the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Communications Team to develop innovative outreach products for the California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment. The IEA Communications Team is

working on developing a web site, a short video and a downloadable brochure and pdf that communicates the main messages of the IEA. In particular, the messages will focus on the utility of the IEA products and process for informing management decisions. Target dates for completion of the three products are Summer 2012.

Team OCEAN featured in Feb issue of Sea Kayaker Magazine

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's kayaker outreach program, Team OCEAN, is featured in the February issue of Sea Kayaker Magazine. The article, written by a long time Team OCEAN volunteer, delves into the daily interactions Team OCEAN volunteers have with other kayakers, what compels them to volunteer, and issues commonly covered while out on the water- plastics and marine debris. Team OCEAN has been in operation since 2000 and has contacted over 63,000 people out on the water. With declining budgets, Team OCEAN and other volunteer programs, face reduced shifts and equipment needs. Issues of the February Sea Kayaker Magazine can be purchased through their website.

2011 First Flush Report Available

A report on water quality sampling that occurs during the first rainstorm of the year (First Flush) is available through the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's website. In 2011, 77 volunteers from Montara (north of Half Moon Bay) down to Carmel by the Sea mobilized in the late hours of October 4th and the early hours of October 5th to sample water flowing from 40 storm drain outfalls along the sanctuary's edge. 2011 marks the twelfth year of First Flush. This program brings cities and agencies together with volunteers to monitor sites along the sanctuary, thereby increasing awareness and knowledge of water quality issues.

Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Review Committee of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) meetings held in Portland, Oregon.

MBNMS staff attended the Groundfish EFH Meetings in Portland, Oregon January 17-18, 2012. The public meeting was a work session with the primary purpose of developing a report to the PFMC to summarize and compare new and newly available information with the suite of information that was available during the previous EFH review. The meeting discussed habitat associations, habitat distribution and modeling, fishing activities that may affect EFH, effects by gear type, harvest of prey species, recreational fishing and non-fishing activities that may affect EFH. The report will be ready for the March briefing book deadline for the April PFMC meeting.

Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program Receives Widespread Support

On January 23rd, the MBNMS Water Quality Protection Program hosted an informational meeting with local municipalities, county public works and environmental health departments, as well as POTW dischargers and those regulated by Areas of Special Biological Significance. The fact that every regulated entity attended (22 participants), demonstrated the interest and enthusiasm for this effort. The planning team consisting of MBNMS staff, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board staff and a Central Coast Long-term Environmental Assessment Network representative have been meeting for the last 6 months to initiate this effort. We feel the time is right to develop a monitoring program because of new proposed state requirements. A regional program will provide much needed information about impacts to the marine environment, effectiveness of stormwater programs and hopefully better leverage resources and be more cost effective.

Training on engaging stakeholders in collaborative learning for EBM Initiative



Front cover of the February issue of Sea Kayaker magazine highlighting Team OCEAN.

Photo Credit: Sea Kayaker Magazine

EBM Initiative staff attended a collaborative learning training at the Coastal Training Program at Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve. The Elkhorn Slough Coastal Training Program works with the Coastal Training Network, a group of experts and educators dedicated to the translation and application of science for coastal resource conservation in California. The Coastal Training Network works to advertise and improve education opportunities and programs for coastal decision makers. MBNMS staff attended to develop a process for collaborative learning to inform the EBM Initiative.

Conservation Working Group meets to discuss priorities for MBNMS EBM Initiative

Members of the MBNMS Conservation Working Group met at the MBNMS to discuss their ideas for achieving goals of the EBM Initiative over the course of the next year. The Conservation Working Group presented a white paper on forage species, addressing concerns to marine mammals and seabirds and ecosystem health. The Conservation Working Group is also gathering information on impacts to benthic features in the MBNMS to identify potential strategies to minimize adverse impacts to essential fish habitat and unique and rare features in MBNMS.

Socio-economic Profile of Fishing and Ocean related activities in MBNMS in review by expert socio-economists

A socio-economic profile of trends in the landings and values of MBNMS fisheries and ocean-related activities has been released for internal review by expert socio-economists. The report will be released on February 20th to partners, stakeholders and agencies. The report is a first step towards understanding the economic value of ocean related activities in MBNMS.

Sunken Fishing Vessel in MBNMS

On January 6, the 58' Fishing vessel "Stikine" sank 1.5 miles off Soquel Point in 80ft water with 1000 gallons of diesel aboard. All 4 passengers were rescued. A light sheen on the water was observed. The vessel's seine net was deployed and sank still connected to the vessel. To date, the net, rigging, and net drum have been salvaged. The second phase of salvage to remove the vessel is scheduled to occur the week of February 20.

Emergency Response Issues

MBNMS is working on a number of emergency response issues related to vessels.

1. A contract to dispose of a 22ft sailboat that pulled from its mooring and rescued from the surf on Seabright State Beach. The vessel was abandoned by the owner, and after coordination with USCG to determine no fuel was leaking. MBNMS assumed responsibility to rescue and dispose of the vessel. No damage to sanctuary resources occurred during the towing and securing of the vessel on the beach where it is currently located. The fully intact disposal of the wreck occurred on the 6th or 7th.
2. Feb 3rd was a report on a 18' capsized fishing vessel located approximately 4 miles west of Ano Nuevo island. USCG launched a C-130 to search last known position of vessel. USCG aircraft located capsized vessel around 1030 hours. USCG plans to recover the vessel and a SAR is underway to locate the single crewmember.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

NEW Education Program Staff in Monterey

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary staff welcome Chelsey Prindle and Juan Centeno to the education team. Chelsey is the new Fisheries Education Specialist and Juan will coordinate the MERITO Academy after school program. The MBNMS is fortunate to have received grants to continue these great programs.

For more information on MBNMS' fisheries education visit: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/voicesofthebay.html>.

For information in regional multicultural programs visit: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/merito/welcome.html>.

Community Outreach

MBNMS staff gave a presentation to the newly formed Cannery Row Rotary that meets regularly at the Clement InterContinental Hotel. This group was very attentive and interested in water quality and had many questions about the Sanctuary Exploration Center in Santa Cruz.

Community Stakeholder meeting

MBNMS staff attended a community stakeholder meeting hosted this week at the Monterey Airport to discuss what the Monterey Peninsula can do to promote the intersection of tourism & sustainability throughout the area.

Media Outreach & Coordination

MBNMS staff, after introduction by Mark DiOrio, coordinated with the Monterey Peninsula Foundation. The Monterey Peninsula Foundation is primarily responsible for distributing charitable funds generated by hosting the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am golf event. However, they are also responsible for organizing the Media Tent for this year's event. Through the relationship built with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, they agreed to host MBNMS talking points within the media facility.

"Your Sanctuary" television program

MBNMS staff filmed a 'Spotlight on Hospitality' segment with the Cannery Row Company on Friday afternoon. The intention of this segment is to highlight local companies within the hospitality industry that are making a demonstrable effort to protect and support the efforts of the MBNMS. It was a gorgeous sunny day, and filming went well.

Sanctuary Exploration Center Outreach

MBNMS staff held several meetings with City of Santa Cruz staff to plan for upcoming special events tied to the grand opening of the Sanctuary Exploration Center (SEC). In addition, staff had a very productive meeting with the General Manager of the Dream Inn, the lovely hotel located directly across the street from the SEC. Conversations revolved around possible future business partnerships & collaborations.

Social Media & MBNMS

The Monterey Plaza Hotel has been highlighting their unique proximity to the MBNMS by frequently mentioning the MBNMS in their Facebook posts. MBNMS staff are quite pleased with this as we have been encouraging them to highlight the presence of the MBNMS as a way to simply alert their guests they are staying in a special place & increase general awareness of the National Marine Sanctuary. Follow them on Facebook if you'd like to see more examples of this.

MBNMS Awareness

At the invitation of the Mayor, MBNMS staff presented at the early-bird meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Pacific Grove on February 8th. The mayor introduced staff and said pleasant & encouraging things about the city and business owners really seeing the value and marketing power of the National Marine Sanctuary. The presentation focused primarily on: the NMS, the upcoming Sanctuary Exploration Center, water quality & the amazing efforts of volunteers in our community.

Carmel Magazine

The Intercontinental Hotel Clement in Monterey is currently running an advertisement in Carmel magazine welcoming guests associated with the AT&T Pro-Am to their premier Oceanfront Hotel. The full-page ad says: "Experience the rich heritage of historic Cannery Row from our unique vantage point overlooking the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and offering magnificent panoramic coastal views". This is noteworthy as staff has been encouraging this type of positive marketing.

Volunteer Appreciation Event

On February 10th, the annual MBNMS Volunteer Appreciation event was held at Asilomar's Fred Farr Forum from 5:30 to 9:00pm. Approximately 90 people attended, which included volunteers from First Flush, Urban Watch, Bay Net, Beach COMBERS, Team OCEAN, Sanctuary Advisory Council and Coastal Discovery Center docents. Paul Michel and each of the group coordinators provided comments and the evening was orchestrated by our volunteer monitoring coordinator, Lisa Emanuelson. Congressman Farr and his wife attended the event to present congressional awards to our two volunteers of the year.

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

Recent Updates

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

- 2012 Sanctuary Symposium “From Lions to Luminescence: Linking Land and Sea”
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/research/cursymp2012/welcome.html>
- Sanctuary Exploration Center Position Announcements
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/new/welcome.html#education>

Follow the MBNMS on Facebook and Twitter!

*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.sanctuariesimon.org

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

<http://www.sanctuaries.nos.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 Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is one of 14 marine protected areas in the National Marine Sanctuary System encompassing 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
John Hunt – Deputy Superintendent
Andrew DeVogelaere – Research Coordinator
Erica Burton – Research Assistant
Jennifer Brown – Research Associate
Steve Lonhart – SIMoN Scientist
Chad King – SIMoN Data Analyst
Oren Frey – Sea Grant Fellow
Dawn Hayes – Education & Outreach Coordinator
Liz Love – Education Specialist
Lisa Uttal – Visitor Center Project Manager
Chelsey Prindle – Fisheries Education Specialist
Juan Centeno – MERITO Academy Coordinator
Scott Kathey – Regulatory Coordinator
Deirdre Whalen – Community and Government Relations Coordinator
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
Rikki Dunsmore – Resource Protection Specialist
Raymond Chisolm – Program Specialist
Nicole Capps – Advisory Council Coordinator
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