

Conservation Working Group Meeting Minutes- October 16, 2001

Attendance: SOS, Sierra Club (Santa Cruz), TOC, Pelican Network, The Marine Mammal Center, MBNMS, John Fisher, Dave Zaches, Deborah Streeter

Announcements:

Kaitilin announced that Governor Davis signed 1673 extending the timeline for the MLPA. She also handed around newspaper articles on new Squid regulations and groundfish declines.

Molly announced that SOS and TOC would be hosting community workshops to prepare for the Management Plan scoping sessions. Workshops will be held Nov. 12 in Pacific Grove, Nov. 14th in Santa Cruz and Dec. 3rd in HMB.

John Fischer announced that a Snowy Plover Management Plan is underway by USFWS.

The CWG discussed the possibility of holding a community forum related to impacts of sound on marine mammals – possibly in February or March. Suggested speakers included Joel Reynolds of NRDC and Mark Delaplaine of the Coastal Commission.

Management Plan Review

Holly announced the scoping schedule (attached) and noted that the format would be a staff presentation followed by small break out groups.

The CWG identified outreach activities related to the management plan review including workshops, newsletters, media, etc.

Vicki Nichols presented the results of the RAP, BTAP and SEP recommendations to the SAC at the October SAC meeting. The CWG voiced support for the RAP's increased focus on integrating research with conservation and resource management issues. The CWG was concerned with BTAP recommendations relating to fishing, permit appeals, human impacts. The CWG decided to add to their recommendations a statement reiterating support for the primary mandate of the Sanctuary Program - ecosystem based resource protection. The CWG also made minor clarifications to some of the other recommendations.

Next meeting: November 20, 2001.