

Research Activity Panel Meeting Summary

Gregor M. Cailliet, MLML, RAP Chair

APRIL 1999 MEETING

Host: Long Marine Lab

Friday April 9, 1999

Attendance: 10 RAP members and 4 guests

PRESENTATIONS

PISCO program (Mark Carr/Pete Raimondi)

Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans: a long term ecological consortium

Lubchenco and Menge (OSU); Somero and Denny (HMS); Gaines (UCSB); Carr and Raimondi (UCSC)

Focus on marine conservation, needs are

- Lack of ecological understanding of what drives variation and structure of populations and communities
- Most work has been on small spatial and temporal training
- Lack of interdisciplinary training
- Ineffective transfer of information from science to public and policy

Goals:

- Initiate interdisciplinary training; HMS will be running their summer courses on biomechanics and protein studies for others in the projects
- Long term, large scale processes on rocky shore and shallow subtidal
- Find new scientific approaches to distinguish human induced versus natural changes; specifically marine reserves
- Outreach and policy efforts

Science approach:

- Coordinated monitoring network: Oregon to Ventura county line(2,000km)
- 31 moorings (ADCP; larval traps- inverts and fish, fluorometers; MiniBat (CTD small boat survey); CODAR; satellite imagery; surface chlorophyll a.
- 47 onshore locations
- 13 CODAR sites
- Nearshore oceanographic processes and how they influence the coast:
- Oregon area; MBNMS boundary; Pt Conception break area
- Linkages between coastal oceanographic and ecological patterns
- Observation studies direct process-oriented experimental studies: new methods to track larval dispersal, where do the fish larvae come from;
- Molecular biology to assess source and sink populations of fish and invertebrates; modeling of reserves with Mangel.
- More links between research and conservation
- Project duration: 5 years minimum

Field studies:

- Annual biodiversity of 10 - 12 sites ecologically important , abundant or recreational commercially exploited species
- Community structure and dynamics at a subset at 6 focal sites- oceanographic sampling, rocky shore and

subtidal

- Recruitment and population dynamics at same 6 focal sites; examine recruitment and population dynamics
- Experimental studies of species interactions over broad geographic scale

Need input

- Study site location input: Davenport; Capitola; Hopkins; Pt. Lobos;
- Big Creek; and one site to move around ----- then 6 more sites without mooring
- RAP members offered input of other available data sets

INFORMATION ITEMS

SAC Summary (Greg Cailliet)

See SAC minutes on MBNMS web site

Coastal Observatory and Oceanic Laboratory (COOL) Proposal (Geof Wheat)

Andrew reviewed the proposal

Greg will work on the letter of support to Sam Farr

Summary of regional information transfer systems (Gary Sharp)

- Gary reviewed a document he worked on in \$86 on ecosystem monitoring
- The document states that monitoring be based on the physical environment (PISCO is heading in that direction, mixing physical oceanography with biology)
- Sharp reviewed a time line for regional data sharing efforts since 1998
- Time scales over long term periods are key, need one
- Role of RAP and community: get long term records on-line; focus on process driven research and tie it to an application; bring different research groups on same topics together; need a perspectives symposium
- There are great opportunities with the Ecosystem Monitoring Fellow and
- MBNMS monitoring program planning

FY 2000 Budget for Sanctuary Program (Gregor Cailliet)

- Greg gave an update and passed out a handout on how to support the budget

Potential new U.C. reserve south of Cambria (D. Costa)

- RAP thought it was a good idea to support the idea; Dan will convey this to the national system

Institutional Update: Long Marine Laboratory/IMS (Gary Griggs)

- Building continues on the NMFS building, the Predatory Bird Group, Marine Discovery Center (expect it to be completed in a month or two); and in the future the Center for Ocean Health will replace the trailers. IMS sees great future in state, federal and academic partnerships.

(NFT) meeting on Live Fish Fishery- debrief (Greg Cailliet)

- CDFG has great interest in the topic, there are future workshops

Ecosystem monitoring: update (Andrew De Vogelaere)

- The announcement for the Research Fellow for the MBNMS Ecosystem Monitoring Program was discussed.

Proposal to Pacific Grove City Council for a no-take zone at Pt. Pinos rocky shores (Lisa de Marignac/Andrew De Vogelaere)

- Because of the meeting is running late, Andrew asked those interested to give him a call.

Graduate student stipend (Andrew De Vogelaere)

- The RAP assisted in the development and review of an early graduate student stipend program for MBNMS research (there are currently no funds to continue the program). A publication in Conservation Biology has resulted, in part, from this program: Jonna Engel and Rikk Kvitek. 1998. Effects of otter trawling on a benthic community in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Conservation Biology 12:1204 - 1214. Contact Andrew if you would like a copy.

Cannery Row Market Place (Greg Cailliet)

- A presentation was made to the SAC on the proposed Cannery Row Market Place. The RAP might be asked to review the proposal, especially regarding potential impacts of the intake and outfall of the desalination plant.

NSF workshop on major research accomplishments (Andrew De Vogelaere)

- NSF sponsored a workshop of about 40 ocean ecologists to assess major research accomplishments of the last three decades and the most productive research questions and challenges of the next two decades. A summary handout will be available at the RAP meeting.