

**MBNMS Research Activity Panel
Meeting Summary
March 14, 2014**

Host: Steve Haddock – Deep-Sea Ecology (MBARI)

Location: Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
Pacific Forum
7700 Sandholdt Road
Moss Landing, CA

Date: Friday, March 14th, 2014; 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Members:

	Discipline	Primary/ Alternate	Name	Institution
X	Research Coordinator		DeVogelaere, Andrew	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
	Biological Oceanography	primary	Kudela, Raphael	University of California, Santa Cruz
	Biological Oceanography	alternate	Chavez, Francisco	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
X	Deep-Sea Ecology	primary	Cailliet, Greg	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (retired)
X	Deep-Sea Ecology	alternate	Haddock, Steve	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
X	Estuarine Ecology	primary	Lindley, Steve	NOAA Fisheries Service
	Estuarine Ecology	alternate	Wasson, Kerstin	Elkhorn Slough NERR and Foundation
	Fisheries	primary	Grimes, Churchill	NOAA Fisheries Service (retired)
	Fisheries	alternate		
	Marine & Coastal Geology	primary	Storlazzi, Curt	United States Geological Survey
	Marine & Coastal Geology	alternate	Paull, Charles	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
	Marine Conservation Biology	primary		
	Marine Conservation Biology	alternate	Micheli, Fiorenza	Hopkins Marine Station
	Marine Policy	primary		
X	Marine Policy	alternate	David, Aimee	Monterey Bay Aquarium
X	Nearshore Ecology	primary	Lindholm, James †	California State University Monterey Bay
	Nearshore Ecology	alternate	Carr, Mark	University of California, Santa Cruz
X	Physical Oceanography	primary	Ramp, Steve	Soliton Ocean Services, Inc.
	Physical Oceanography	alternate		
	Shelf & Slope Ecology	primary	Sogard, Susan	NOAA Fisheries Service
	Shelf & Slope Ecology	alternate		
	Social Sciences	primary	Pomeroy, Caroline	California Sea Grant Extension Program
X	Social Sciences	alternate	Scorse, Jason	Monterey Institute of International Studies
X	Water Quality	primary	Hunt, John †	University of California, Davis
	Water Quality	alternate	Epel, David	Hopkins Marine Station

*Sanctuary Advisory Council Member: Research (Primary)

†Sanctuary Advisory Council Member: Research (Alternate)

RAP Coordinator:

X	Burton, Erica	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
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GUESTS:

Bickel, Aric	CeNCOOS
Brown, Jennifer	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Hutto, Sarah	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Lonhart, Steve	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Michel, Paul	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

CONSENT ITEMS

Introductions/Modifications to the Agenda (Lindholm)

HOST PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

MBARI Research Highlights (Haddock)

- Steve presented highlights of MBARI research, including:
 - Monterey Accelerated Research System (MARS; Contact: Craig Dawe)
 - Utilizing UCSC's vessel R/V Paragon for mooring maintenance, blue water diving
 - Long-range AUV Tethys, deployed off small boats, longest trip 1800 km
 - Mooring/Sensors in Elkhorn Slough (nitrate, pH; Ken Johnson)
 - Development of coastal profiling float, replacement for ARGO array (Ken Johnson)
 - Monitoring of chemical weapons sites using mapping AUV (Peter Brewer) off S.F. and Santa Cruz Basin (So Cal)
 - MBARI video lab (main video data stream): Characterization of bio, geology, habitat, and experimental procedures using VARS; several projects with MBNMS (Davidson Seamount, Sur Ridge, USS Macon, lost shipping container, SESAs, Sanctuary Exploration Center)
 - Field tests for low cost self-contained camera (go-pro) for autonomous imaging and time-series
 - Whale falls, cold seeps (Vrjenhoek Lab)
 - Midwater ecology lab (Bruce Robison): characterize deep pelagic fauna, and develop a baseline
 - Zooplankton biodiversity and bioluminescence (Haddock Lab)
 - Jellywatch.org doing well; mobile app; continuing to expand program globally

PRESENTATION REQUESTED BY RAP

Sea Star Wasting Syndrome (Steve Lonhart/MBNMS)

- Lonhart provided brief overview of topic
- Syndrome began in August 2013 in north (e.g. WA); Oct/Nov observed in MBNMS
- SIMoN project page provides overview and where to find more info
 - http://sanctuarysimon.org/projects/project_info.php?projectID=100401&site=true
- Lonhart showed 2 videos:
 - Video: Thank You Ocean Report podcast (Pete Raimondi interview)
 - <http://www.thankyouocean.org/news/podcasts/#4015>
 - Video: mystery of dying starfish
 - (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRohJfskNWs>)

- UCSC hosts website to track issue
 - <http://seastarwasting.org>

SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

Summary of February 21st SAC Meeting at Pacific Grove (Lindholm)

- Lindholm provided overview of SAC meeting
- Information Item: Leatherback Sea Turtle Summit, and international partnership with Indonesia (SAC Conservation Working Group)
- Information Item: Understanding and reducing the impacts of underwater noise in marine protected areas (Leila Hatch, ONMS); ONMS will look at this issue nationally rather than at individual sites; SAC wants to learn more on sound issue (natural vs human-caused)
 - RAP Membership committee will meet to discuss potential acoustic RAP discipline/member (NPS volunteer)
- Information Item: Update on MLPA Central Coast Monitoring Effort (Liz Whiteman, Ocean Science Trust)
 - Central coast next for monitoring (funding opportunity unclear)
 - New monitoring plan and indicators on the horizon
- Pacific Fisheries Management Council addressing drift gill net issue at March meeting; fishermen want less drift gill net closures (seasonal at Davidson Seamount vicinity), conservation group wants to keep closures/ban (concerned with leatherback sea turtles and other); state of CA moving toward banning (like OR and WA); MBNMS tracking issue
- These and other SAC agenda items can be found on SAC website:
 - <http://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/sacma.html>
- **ACTION:** DeVogelaere to follow up with RAP membership committee on potential addition of RAP sound discipline membership
- **ACTION:** DeVogelaere to report back to MBNMS staff on collaborative whale strike course

STAFF/SAC REQUESTS TO RAP

Updating the MBNMS Condition Report (Jennifer Brown/MBNMS)

- Brown briefly summarized format of 2009 Condition Report
- In 2014, MBNMS staff initiated process to update Condition Report
- The 2014 targeted update will focus on only those questions for which new information indicates a change to the 2009 status and trend assessment is needed
- **ACTION:** Input requested from RAP (at meeting and by email 3/26/14):
 - Input on targeted updating process and timeline
 - Input on capturing uncertainty
 - By email:
 - Any new info missing from database?
 - Which status and trend ratings need updating?

Integrated Ecosystem Assessment and Developing Indicators for MBNMS (Jennifer Brown/MBNMS)

- Objectives of MBNMS/California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA) collaboration include:
 - Identify priority monitoring targets for major habitats in MBNMS
 - Identify focal indicators of ecosystem status and trends for the Condition Report
 - Downscale products/processes from the coast-wide for regional application
- Brown provided overview of process to develop indicators
- **ACTION**: Brown will request feedback from RAP (by email)

MEETING UPDATES

Sanctuary Currents Symposium Program (Erica Burton/MBNMS)

- Burton provided symposium planning update
- Symposium will be held Saturday April 25th at CSUMB University Center
- Save the Date flyer provided to RAP
- Program information available at:
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/research/currsymp2014/welcome.html>

SUGGESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 2nd update on Sea Star Wasting Syndrome
- Update on collaborative marine course on marine vessel whale strikes and acoustics (Scorese and Mike McGinnis)
- National Ocean Economics Program (NOEP) Report, “State of the U.S. Ocean and Coastal Economies 2014” (by Scorese), May 9th meeting
- Condition Report: when complete, update RAP

Future Agenda Items (running list):

- MBNMS Updates:
 - Sanctuary Ecologically Significant Areas (SESAs)
 - Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA)
- Results of sand mining plant study (Scorese)
- Results of Pleasure Point Surf property value (Scorese)
- WQ monitoring web portals: Ocean Health for CA (per Hunt)
- Sept/Nov 2013 meeting: regional water board on assessment of monitoring data for 12 years at coastal confluences (30 streams/rivers); report written July 2013; (per Hunt)
- Leadership changes at Big NOAA, and how affects little NOAA (MBNMS)
- RAP Membership: add member with expertise in ocean acoustics? (Ramp)
 - Revisit RAP member policies including representation: discipline vs institution; available at: http://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/rap/history/rap_policies.html
- Continuation of SAC resolution to ban seismic air gun surveys

2014 RAP Meeting Schedule and Locations

Date	Host	Location
January 10	Lindholm	CSU Monterey Bay
March 14	Haddock	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
May 9	Scorse	Monterey Institute of International Studies
July 11	Wasson	Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Research Reserve
September 12	Storlazzi	U.S. Geological Survey
November 14	Pomeroy	Center for Ocean Health, UCSC
