

MONTEREY BAY  
NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY  
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1995  
SANTA CRUZ HOLIDAY INN  
SIERRA ROOM, 611 OCEAN STREET, SANTA CRUZ, CA

AGENDA

- 8:30 Coffee and Sign-in
- 9:00 Welcome by Mayor Katherine Beiers  
Roll Call, Approval of February Mtg Minutes
- 9:15 Update on flood impacts to Sanctuary
- 9:20 Public Comments on items not on the agenda
- 9:35 SAC Strategic Planning session
- 10:30 Discussion on authority and protocol for advising  
MBNMS management
- 11:30 Discussion of alternative funding for Sanctuary Program
- 12:15 Award presentations to G. Valenzuela and P. Eves
- 12:30 LUNCH
- 1:45 Caltrans presentation on alternatives for addressing  
Devil's Slide road closures
- 2:30 Sanctuary Update Report from Sanctuary Manager
- 3:15 Reports from Working Groups  
Conservation  
Education  
Research
- 3:45 Recent NOAA action regarding shark attraction in MBNMS
- 4:00 Announcements and comments from Council members
- 4:30 Adjourn

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary  
Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 24, 1995  
Hudson House - Pt. Lobos State Reserve

Highway One, Carmel, CA

## I. WELCOME, ROLL CALL, APPROVAL OF MARCH MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Karin Strasser Kauffman, at 9:35 a.m. Roll call was taken with the following public categories and government agencies present and representing a quorum as indicated:

AMBAG: Ruth Vreeland	NOAA Enforcement: Bob Jones
CA Resources: Brian Baird	Research: Greg Cailliet
Agriculture: Richard Nutter	At Large: Karin Strasser Kauffman
Business & Industry: Steve Abbott	At Large: Steve Webster
Coastal Commission: Les Strnad	At Large: Jo Stallard
Coast Guard: Jim Hall	CA EPA: Not represented
Conservation: Rachel Saunders	Recreation: Not represented
Diving: Ed Cooper	Fishing: Not represented
Education: Dorris Welch	Tourism: Not represented
Harbors: Joe Townsend	US EPA: Not represented

The following non-voting members were present as indicated:

MBNMS Manager: Terry Jackson  
Channel Islands NMS: Not represented  
Cordell Bank/Gulf of the Farallones: Ed Ueber  
Elkhorn Slough NERR: Not represented

The minutes from the Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting of March 24 were reviewed, amended by Council members and approved as discussed. Council members were informed about the status of two follow-up items from the March meeting -- thank you letters to the Santa Cruz couple who generously donated their time and funds to produce and place signs for the MBNMS (See Attachment A) and the latest status on Fort Ord marine environment clean-up.

Karin Strasser Kauffman reported that, as directed by the Council at the March meeting, she had spoken with Colonel McCutcheon at Fort Ord regarding the clean-up of Sanctuary waters off of the former military base. According to McCutcheon, the Army is waiting for approval to begin taking samples and participating in the current research. The Army has agreed to take responsibility if clean-up is warranted. They have been communicating with the EPA to institute the research and clean-up efforts. In response to Council members indicating they want Sanctuary involvement in the project, the Chair mentioned that she will continue to aggressively pursue meetings between the Army and Sanctuary staff.

## II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

A. Jay Murray, Dive Master for Aquarius Dive Shop in Monterey, voiced concern for underwater noise pollution in the Bay. Murray advocated a need for legislative limits governing undersea noise. He is willing to provide tapes and documents on request in support of his position.

B. Daniela Feinholz introduced a new non-profit organization, the Pacific Cetacean Group, for which she serves as President. (See Attachment B)

### III. ANNUAL REPORT FROM ADVISORY COUNCIL TO SANCTUARY MANAGER

As required in the by-laws, the Sanctuary Advisory Council must provide an annual report of activities to the Sanctuary manager. Moreover, the report enables members to track their work and help to plan for the future -- both long-term and short-term. Council Secretary, Jim Hall, presented the report. (See Attachment C) Chair Strasser Kauffman commended and thanked Jim for his work.

Noting the maturation of the SAC and its processes as a fine example of a productive regional government where local, state, and federal agencies take responsibility for action, Karin Strasser Kauffman emphasized her gratitude to Council members for their outstanding efforts. A strong foundation for continued public involvement in the management of the Sanctuary has been instituted. The Chair continued, highlighting the establishment of a protocol; the instigation of public interest; the institution of regular meetings; and, the Council's success in pointing out the benefits of environmental conservation at both the local and the national level, as major accomplishments of the year. She is looking forward to an even more productive second year and suggested that the Council needs to concentrate on educating its constituents about the economic benefits, locally and nationally, of the Sanctuary.

Council members recommended that the report be augmented to include:

- € mention of the successful management of the Sanctuary, the staffing support provided by the Sanctuary office, and the exemplary coordination between the two National Marine Sanctuary Managers (MBNMS and Gulf of a Farallones/Cordell Bank NMS);
  - € some quantitative references demonstrating the institutional public and private partnerships and their commitment to responsible management of the MBNMS. It was requested that an estimate of the hours spent by the SAC and its three working groups be calculated in a consistent manner to provide a financial estimate of the donated cost of participation plus, include an estimate of participation from other agencies, both public and private, as well as the number of interested citizens attending the meetings;
  - € include supporting documentation from the working groups as Appendices.
- Working group Chairs were asked to go through their minutes and produce a highlights list to submit to Jim Hall.

Council members also requested that the numerous issues addressed by the Council in 1994 be submitted in more detail. They asked that the sub-heading "Fireworks" be changed to "Permits" and incorporate a discussion of the special problems associated with permit requirements for the annual Chocolate Abalone Dive and the Gold Dive.

With respect to the Sanctuary's budget, Council members conceded that the existence of a budget was a positive achievement in its own right, however, they identified problem areas of concern involving staffing.

All agreed that the over-riding issue was improving communication channels. The Sanctuary office's new electronic capability should aid this.

The Council, as a whole, was proud of their accomplishments. All agreed that the past year was a productive one and are looking forward to future service on behalf of the Sanctuary program.

Finally, the Chair was applauded for her outstanding leadership.

#### IV. ELECTION OF COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR AND SECRETARY

The Chair explained to the Council that, in accordance with the by-laws, the terms of the officers must be staggered to ensure consistency. For year one only, the office of Vice-Chair was up for election. Following this meeting's elections, the term will be for two years. The Secretary serves for a one year term.

After a nomination and election process, Steve Webster was re-elected as Vice-Chair, and Steve Abbott was chosen as the new Secretary.

The Chair expressed her appreciation for the remarkable job Jim Hall did during his tenure as Secretary. Jim is being transferred to Washington, D.C. early this summer. His replacement is Dean Lee. Terry Jackson and Ed Ueber thanked the Coast Guard for their unconditional support and assistance regarding Sanctuary matters. Terry commented that this level of support was largely due to Hall's influence.

The Chair welcomed the new officers.

#### V. UPDATED ASSESSMENT OF FLOOD IMPACTS TO THE SANCTUARY

Pat Cotter, a water quality specialist at the MBNMS, presented a brief slide presentation of aerial photographs taken just after the floods began. Cotter reported that thousands of cubic yards of sediment flowed from the Carmel River into the Bay and the photos revealed dramatic sediment plumes from the Salinas and Pajaro Rivers. The report and ensuing discussion addressed many environmental consequences, and highlighted the need for monitoring, assessment, and potential clean-up efforts.

On a positive note, Cotter reported that though the sediment impacts are still very heavy, the EPA Emergency Response Team found very small levels of toxic waste. Richard Nutter concurred, informing Council members that pesticides are not normally kept in large plastic drums and that precautions, such as removing the poisons before the flood waters arrived, were taken to avoid a potentially dangerous situation. Nutter went on to inform the group that any pesticides apparent in the sediment layers would be old ones. Furthermore, because of active pesticide turn-in programs over the past few years, there aren't major pesticide dumps in the area.

Council members requested that the Sanctuary keep working with other agencies and organizations to monitor the impacts and assist with clean-up if necessary. The 1995 Flood Impact Report (See Attachment D) describes in more detail the damaged areas and status of clean-up.

A matter requiring special discussion was the failure of many wastewater treatment plants and the resulting spillage during the floods. Because the problem is not one for coastal communities only, Council members requested that representatives from the more densely populated inland communities be included in the clean-up efforts as well as the water quality protection programs. The Council requested that Dr. Holly Price, Director of the Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP), be invited to discuss the importance of watershed management at the next meeting. Greg Cailliet mentioned that watershed management topics could also be included in the 1996 Monterey Bay Research Symposium.

The Council suggested that this would be an opportune time to get the various groups together to discuss the floods, their impact, and future plans. Les Strnad will investigate Council participation in a conference sponsored by the California Coastal Commission this

June. Additionally, Council members were reminded that the WQPP was formed to bring the various groups together and is presently reviewing water quality control strategies for the 1990's.

General discussion further revealed that a serious lack of funding will significantly inhibit the immediate analysis of many of the samples taken from the NOAA Ship McArthur during its recent expedition in the Sanctuary. The Council can help in this effort by writing letters to our legislators requesting more financial support for timely scientific procedures.

Council member, Jo Stallard introduced Watershed Ecology Outreach Program (WEOP), a new organization dedicated to planning for the future, and improving the areas that caused problems. The organization has produced an impressive report of the floods complete with color photographs obtained by NASA satellites. Stallard encouraged all members to stop by the WEOP offices at the California State University - Monterey Bay (CSUMB) campus.

## VI. CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF ALTERNATIVE FUNDING OPTIONS

In follow up to last months discussion of alternative funding to the now defunct user fees proposal, the consensus of the Council was to work actively in pursuit of a number of options. Members of the task force dealing with alternative funding will concentrate on fine-tuning a list of realistic revenue sources for Sanctuary programs.

Appointed members of the Alternative Funding Task Force are:

Jo Stallard  
Daphne White  
Greg Cailliet  
Ed Cooper  
Karin Strasser Kauffman  
Rachel Saunders  
Tourism Representative

Ed Ueber was asked to serve on the task force as a liaison between the MBNMS and the Gulf of the Farallones/Cordell Bank NMS.

## VII. APPOINTMENTS TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

The Chair also appointed members of a new Economic Development task force which will work with others to document the economic benefits to the Sanctuary Program. Responsibilities will include encouragement of efforts to market the Sanctuary as a profit-earning asset to local businesses. This task force is expected to work closely with the Chambers of Commerce, local businesses, and experts dealing with business strategies. The Chair stated her intent to act as coordinator for this task force.

All Council members are encouraged to participate on the task forces.

Appointed members of the Economic Development Task Force include:

Steve Abbott	Ruth Vreeland
Joe Townsend	Tami Grove
Richard Nutter	Ed Ueber
Dave Danbom	Brian Baird
Jim Rote	

Both of the new Task Forces are asked to meet at least once prior to the next Council meeting to begin preliminary work.

Council members were informed of a symposium on environmental and economic development scheduled for May 20 and sponsored by UCSC.

#### VIII. PROGRESS REPORT ON PIEDRAS BLANCAS ELEPHANT SEAL HARASSMENT PROTECTION

Brian Baird reported that people continue to park along Highway One and climb over the barricade to get close to the mammals. Short term solutions involve a two phase approach: 1) a California Highway Patrol full-time presence to prohibit parking; and 2) CALTRANS changing the existing signage from "No Stopping" to "No Parking - Tow Away" and putting up physical barriers such as collapsible demarcation posts. Brian noted that the CHP and CALTRANS agreed to the enforcement actions, and provided the additional funds to support the extra patrol personnel and a chain link fence to prevent seals from entering the road.

The long-term plan requires cooperation from the Hearst Corporation to permit the construction of a facility that will allow people to view the seals from a safe distance. Negotiations are in progress, with a meeting set for May 18. Baird reminded the Council of the value of the elephant seal viewing experience at Ano Nuevo in particular.

The Chair asked that Brian provide a follow-up report at the next Council meeting.

The Council adjourned for lunch at 12:35 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

#### IX. STATUS OF THE MUSSEL WATCH PROGRAM FROM MARK STEPHENSON, DIRECTOR, CALIFORNIA MUSSEL WATCH PROGRAM

Mark Stephenson, Director of the California Mussel Watch Program, reported on the current status of the project. A division of California Fish and Game and funded by the State Water Resources Board, the Mussel Watch Program is designed to analyze pollutant levels throughout the state. (See Attachment E) It was this program that was responsible for detecting the high lead content in the west end of Monterey Harbor. Moreover, the Mussel Watch Program has documented the decrease in the use of environmentally dangerous pesticides in the Agricultural industry.

The mussel watch program has provided scientists with important long-term data spanning an uninterrupted 10-15 years. It is a source of immediate information concerning changes in the health of our environment over time. Given the recent floods and current anxiety over what the long-term impacts to the Sanctuary will be, the mussel watch program could provide valuable material.

Unfortunately, over the past ten years, mussel watch research has lost the majority of its funding forcing the program to close all but one of its 35 stations in the Monterey area. Many Council members already familiar with the program, asked how the SAC could be of assistance.

Council members, recognizing the Program as a powerful statistical and cost effective tool, recommended the following:

- 1) Request that Marc Del Piero invite someone from State Board to address the Council about future plans for the Program;

- 2) Request that Thomas La Hue provide input about support for the Program at the regional level;
- 3) Recommend that the Research Activity Panel (RAP) work with the Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP) to discuss different ways of monitoring pesticide levels and formally endorse support for the Program;
- 4) Investigate how the Sanctuary might be able to tap into the Federal Mussel Watch Program and if there are funds that could be used;
- 5) Ask Stephenson to prepare a supporting document outlining how the Program works in favor of public safety by, not only detecting the negative impacts our environment, but also the positive trends;
- 6) Empower the SAC to act quickly to draft letters of support to our legislatures -- Dr. Jim Rote to assist with the language.

#### X. DISCUSSION OF FOCUS FOR COUNCIL RETREAT ON STRATEGIC PLANNING ISSUES -- RESCHEDULE RETREAT DATE

Rachel Saunders introduced and summarized the draft agenda for the scheduled SAC Retreat. (See Attachment F) The original date for the session had been postponed due to lack of time for preparation and low participation. The SAC Retreat was rescheduled for Friday, June 2, 1995 from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at a place to be determined. Rachel, Terry, and the Chair emphasized to the group how important participation in the Retreat is and encouraged everyone to attend. Mr. Bruce Stewart, a facilitator has been secured to moderate the day's activities.

The Agenda will cover areas of major concern to the Council and its role as an advise and assist organization to the Sanctuary office.

Saunders stated that support material will be sent in advance of the meeting and encouraged everyone to prepare. The Chair seconded the recommendation and strongly urged Council members to read their Handbooks thoroughly before the meeting.

The Chair entertained a motion from the floor to cancel the May business meeting in favor of having more participation at the Retreat. The motion was seconded and passed. The next business meeting of the Sanctuary Advisory Council will be on Friday, June 23, 1995 at a place to be determined.

#### XI. SANCTUARY UPDATE REPORT FROM SANCTUARY MANAGER

Terry Jackson presented the Sanctuary Activity Report. (See Attachment G)

With respect to the report on Vessel Traffic Safety, Council members expressed frustration with the lengthy process involving the report. The Council requested that an update on the report's status and information regarding deadlines be presented at the June 2 Retreat. Many wondered if it would be possible to push the document through the signature process given the fact that vessel traffic safety was identified as the Sanctuary's number one threat. The Council also requested that the Coast Guard provide a verbal report at the June 2 meeting.

Brian Baird was asked to update Council members at the June 23 meeting on the status of

## Oil Spill Response (OSPR).

At the request of the Chair, Ed Ueber, Manager of the Gulf of the Farallones/ Cordell Bank NMS provided an activities report as follows:

- 1) Permits refused for overflights at Ano Nuevo;
- 2) Ueber attended a productive meeting concerning San Francisco sewage discharge proposals;
- 3) Ueber attended two meetings regarding Devil's Slide;
- 4) Volunteer programs discovered 20 tarballs over 6 pounds each. The oil is believed to have come from the north slope of Alaska indicating that someone is pumping bilges;
- 5) Big Lagoon at Muir Beach just north of San Francisco has been selected for complete restoration. The four-million dollar project will re-establish normal contours of the estuary and riparian areas;
- 6) The Pier 1 project is going forward with support and funding from NOAA;
- 7) The Man in the Biosphere Program is changing its name to the Golden Gate Biosphere Reserve. Ueber encouraged the MBNMS to form a biosphere reserve and coordinate with the northern California group. SAC members are invited to visit the Golden Gate Biosphere Reserve.

## XII. TOURISM REPRESENTATIVE APPLICATIONS

Eight applications were received by the Friday, April 21 deadline. In accordance with the by-laws, the Council may submit three finalists to the Sanctuary manager who in turn recommends a number one choice before forwarding the information to headquarters. The final decision is made by the Director, SRD.

In light of the seriousness of the Tourism Representative position, Council members were adamant about establishing criteria for the selection and forwarding that criteria on to Washington, D.C.

The candidate must:

- 1) be able to commit time to the SAC;
- 2) already be active in the tourism community;
- 3) have a solid sense of constituency needs;
- 4) be regionally oriented, not only focused on Monterey;
- 5) be able to work with local Chambers of Commerce;
- 6) be able to articulate the needs of the Council;
- 7) be an individual committed to the good of the Sanctuary.

Council members requested that the applications be available for their review and comments. The Chair directed the Sanctuary office to have the applications available to SAC members until Friday, May 12. After that time, a SAC Executive Committee comprised of the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary will convene to examine the applications and make their recommendations. Finally, the SAC strongly urged Terry to interview the finalists.

## XIII. REPORTS ON COASTAL PROGRAM MANAGERS MEETING IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Terry Jackson commented that the California contingent made a favorable impression at the meeting. However, "anti-regulation" appears to be the sentiment in Congress, posing concerns for the future of NOAA Programs. Reducing NOAA's budget by 50% over the next five years is a realistic proposal in Congress. Nevertheless, support for the Sanctuary program presently remains high. Sanctuary managers were urged to rally support for the programs and inform decision makers of that support via letters. Issues where letters from the SAC may be of some assistance involve reauthorization of the Coastal Zone Act, opposing substantial cuts in NOAA's budget, and supporting the Clean Water Act. The Chair agreed that letter campaigns were important and directed the SAC to produce appropriate correspondence.

Ed Ueber interjected that he will be attending the President's Council on Environmental Studies hosted by the National Parks Service on April 26-28. He will carry our message to the conference.

Steve Kimple sent a prepared statement which was read to the group. Steve attended several sessions including: expansion of e-mail technological capability; a discussion of the integrated nationwide water monitoring program; the 1995-96 Sanctuaries and Reserves Division (SRD) budget; the possibility of a Pacific Region Conference; and, many visits to Capitol Hill to support SRD programs.

Kimple expressed his satisfaction that this year's meeting was far more productive than the previous years, but reiterated the atmosphere in Washington is one of pessimism and urged everyone to write to the Chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees.

Karin Straser Kauffman also reported on the Washington, D.C. meetings, echoing much of what was said earlier about budget insecurity for NOAA programs. Karin was fortunate to meet with, The Honorable Leon Panetta, White House Chief of Staff, and Doug Hall, Asst. Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere. She also covered a variety of topics in conversations with Stan Wilson, Head of National Ocean Service; Jeff Benoit, Director of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management; and Jim Lawless, Acting Director, SRD.

Of major concern for the SAC is the National Marine Sanctuaries Act which is up for reauthorization in 1996. The Chair suggested that the Council begin efforts now to secure support for the legislation.

The Chair reported that the Council has been asked to help organize a National Round Table discussion for the Department of Commerce on COASTAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM. Finally, Strasser Kauffman expressed her gratitude for having had the opportunity to attend the meeting and interact at the national level.

#### XIV. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

##### A. Sanctuary Education Panel

Dorris Welch reported that the Sanctuary Education Panel (SEP) did not meet for the month of April due to scheduling conflicts, but that their next meeting was set for Tuesday, May 9 from 2:30 -5:00 p.m. at MBARI in Moss Landing. The working group has been busy however, finalizing budget items; writing a Marine Lab Windows program; and participating in teacher's workshops. Dorris attended the reception for the McArthur and hopes that the video footage taken by the ROV will be available for use in classrooms and public areas.

Welch and others attended a meeting at the Monterey Bay Aquarium to discuss Sanctuary outreach for the summer.

Other projects included: the Sanctuary Stewards Project in conjunction with Save Our Shores; the habitat's van project and its prospectus for review; aiding the Monterey Bay Natural History Association in focusing on the Sanctuary for their summer lecture series; and pursuing the MARE Teacher's Program.

#### B. Conservation Working Group

Rachel Saunders reported that the Conservation Working Group (CWG) met on Tuesday, April 18 at the Moss Landing District Harbor Office. Members discussed the current situation regarding the floods and proposed a forum on flood impacts.

Mark Pickett, Asst. Manager for the Sanctuary office, presented a report on Sanctuary activities, responding to questions about the vessel traffic safety report and provided an update on the jet ski regulations and Sanctuary plans for enforcement.

Rachel stated, on behalf of the CWG, that they would be interested in helping to enforce the jet ski regulations. The CWG recommended that the public be educated positively about the regulations and their impacts to the Sanctuary.

Noise pollution was brought up as a concern of the working group. Currently, there is a draft letter and memorandum charting suggestions for Council action circulating among the working groups. Once a collective consensus is received, the issue will be brought before the Council for action.

Lastly, Rachel reported on the Research symposium scheduled for February 1996. Organizers of the symposium, purposefully kept the date separate from the Sanctuary birthday celebration normally held in the fall. The symposium is targeted to maintain the integrity of the research community while combining the education and conservation elements.

Rachel Saunders indicated that there was room in the draft agenda to include a discussion of the Water Quality Protection Program.

#### C. Research Advisory Panel

Greg Cailliet reported that the Research Activity Panel (RAP) had a productive meeting on Friday, April 21 at the CDF&G offices.

Greg elaborated on the poster contest for the Research Symposium scheduled for 1996, mentioning that the posters would be available on a yearly basis for display around the Sanctuary. He also commented that the Symposium will stress technology and attempt to bring together the research and its results for general use. The attached document (See Attachment H) was provided to the SAC Coordinator after the meeting as a reference to the group's recent activities.

### XV. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

#### A. Ed Cooper, Diving Representative:

- 1) InnerSpace 1995 is scheduled for October 13-15, 1995 - MBNMS is being promoted;
- 2) Skindiver Magazine raised \$110,000 to advertise the Monterey Bay as a world class diving destination with a four page pull-out. Cooper hopes to review the material before it's published. There will be 400,00 copies issued.

B. Les Strnad, California Coastal Commission:

- 1) Les has been invited to hear Scripps' proposal for ATOC at the May Commission meeting in Southern California;
- 2) The Commissioner will hear the proposal for San Carlos Beach on June 15-16 in Carmel Valley;
- 3) There will be a joint workshop on WQPP - Moss Landing Marine Lab hopes to tie the workshop into site characterization research;
- 4) Terry to give an overview of the Sanctuary at an evening meeting of the CCC. Hope to have Ed Ueber's involvement.

C. Moss Landing Open House - April 29-30

D. Karin Strasser Kauffman:

- 1) The SAC has been invited to coordinate the environmental portion of a conference celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the United Nations. The conference is scheduled for June 1995. The Council decided that they couldn't handle the environmental portion of the conference, but would provide materials about the Sanctuary for a display.

XVI. The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane M. DeLay  
SAC Coordinator

Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
Final