

MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, December 1, 1995
Pt. Lobos State Reserve
Highway One, Carmel, CA

AGENDA

- 9:00 Coffee and Sign In
- 9:30 Call to Order, Roll Call, Approval of October Meeting Minutes
- 9:45 Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
- 10:00 Presentation: Ocean Acoustic Observatory (OAO)
Dr. Khasrow Lashkari, MBARI
- 10:45 Quarterly Report: Water Quality Protection Program
- 11:15 Presentation: Grant Opportunities for the California Marine
Sanctuary Foundation
- 11:30 Update: State Mussel Watch Program
- 11:45 Review: Central California Regional Water Recycling Project
- 12:00 Lunch - Announcements from Council Members
- 1:00 Sanctuary Manager's Report
- 1:30 Report from the NOAA Sanctuaries and Reserves Division
- 2:00 Reports from the Working Groups: Conservation, Education, Research
- 2:45 Report: Building Partnerships with Business, Tourism, and the
Sanctuary Workshop
- 3:00 Adjourn

MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, December 1, 1995
Pt. Lobos State Reserve, Hudson House
Highway One, Carmel, California

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council met on Friday, December 1, 1995 in the Hudson House at Pt. Lobos State Reserve in Carmel, California. Members

present and representing a quorum were:

AMBAG:	Not Represented	NMFS Enforcement:	Roy Torres
CA Resources:	Melissa Miller-Henson		
	(for Brian Baird)	Harbors:	Joe Townsend
Agriculture:	Richard Nutter	CCC:	Tami Grove
At Large:	Steve Webster	CA EPA:	Marc Del Piero
At Large:	Karin Strasser Kauffman	Recreation:	Tom LaHue
Coast Guard:	Not Represented	Fishing:	Dave Danbom
Conservation:	Not Represented	Tourism:	Ed Brown
Diving:	Ed Cooper	Education:	Dorris Welch
Research:	Andrew DeVogelaere	Business & Industry:	Steve Abbott
	(for Greg Cailliet)		

The following non-voting members were present as indicated:

Monterey Bay NMS:	Terry Jackson
Channel Islands NMS:	Not Represented
Elkhorn Slough NERR:	Steve Kimple
CB/GF NMS:	Ed Ueber

Also in attendance was Liz Moore, a Program Specialist from the Sanctuaries and Reserves Division headquarters in Washington, D.C.

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, and COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by the Chair.

... The Chair called for a moment of silence in tribute to At-Large representative Jo Stallard, who passed away in November. Jo Stallard possessed a broad perspective on environmental issues and brought real commitment to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. She was a founding member of the Sanctuary Advisory Council as well as an instrumental player in obtaining the Sanctuary's designation in 1992.

... Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Program Specialist, Aaron King, requested that the Sanctuary Advisory Council send a letter of condolence to the staff and owners of the Cambria Telegraph Tribune, who recently lost two of their reporters who wrote regularly about the Sanctuary. The letter was approved by the Council.

II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The DRAFT minutes from the October 27, 1995 meeting were approved as amended.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Dave Clayton, a local diver, expressed concerns about the Jade Cove issue and encouraged Advisory Council members to visit the exhibit on Jade at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History.

IV. PRESENTATION: OCEAN ACOUSTIC OBSERVATORY, (OAO) BY DR. KHASROW LASHKARI

Dr. Khasrow Lashkari, an Engineer at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), provided a presentation on his work with the Ocean Acoustic Observatory

(OAO), a system designed to monitor the oceans using acoustic, or sound energy. Dr. Lashkari emphasized that the system is passive and does not generate any sound. The goal of the OAO is to develop a system for continuous and real-time monitoring and observation of ocean processes. By listening to the ocean, MBARI engineers attempt to identify the source, distance, and direction. It can identify different species of whales and is believed to be a viable system for studying the effects of human-generated sound on marine mammals. The data from the system can be placed on the internet.

V. QUARTERLY REPORT: WATER QUALITY PROTECTION PROGRAM

Dr. Holly Price, Director of the MBNMS Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP), provided the Council with an update on activities completed from July 1995 - November 1995.

The report included mention of the following:

... All participating agencies are contributing funds.

... Introduction of Richard Green, a Sea Grant Fellow, working as an intern to the WQPP and developing initial strategies for the next stage in the program -- agriculture.

... A proposed 1996 schedule for implementing the Urban Run-off strategies. Advisory Council members are encouraged to assist the WQPP in distributing posters and literature on the topic.

... A schedule for completion of the strategies and their implementation for Marinas and Boating.

... Agriculture will be the next focus for the WQPP. Holly Price is working closely with Richard Nutter, Agricultural Commissioner and member of the Sanctuary Advisory Council, to involve grower representatives. A workshop is scheduled for February 1996.

... The WQPP is developing a regional water quality monitoring program. An extensive strategy for regional monitoring has been completed and the WQPP has sponsored a workshop to coordinate the monitoring efforts.

... The WQPP is working to establish a management council. The Council will serve as a permanent body dedicated to overseeing the strategies and ensuring their implementation. The Council, if established, would continue the coordination efforts between the participating agencies and would replace the existing WQPP. Dr. Price indicated that the Sanctuary Advisory Council would be invited to participate on the WQPP Council.

The Sanctuary Advisory Council publicly commended the WQPP as a unique and important program provided by the MBNMS and extended tremendous accolades to Dr. Holly Price as its Director.

VI. PRESENTATION: GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CALIFORNIA MARINE SANCTUARY FOUNDATION

Aaron King, MBNMS Program Specialist, and Terry Tillman, California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), presented a funding opportunity for the California Marine Sanctuary Foundation. In essence, the proposal entails approximately \$1 million earmarked by the State of California for research in the four state marine reserves, one of which is located in the MBNMS -- Big Creek. The California Department of Fish and Game has approached two entities: Sea Grant and the Sanctuary Foundation to handle the revenues. If granted the funds, the Marine Sanctuary Foundation would be responsible for their administration in accordance with the legislation governing its dispersal. 9% of the total would be allotted to the Foundation for administrative costs.

After some discussion, Advisory Council members concluded that work still needs to be completed, such as the establishment of a Board of Directors, before the Foundation can effectively meet the CDFG mandate. With one abstention, the Advisory Council passed a motion authorizing the Council's Alternative Funding Task Force to do whatever was necessary to accept the one million dollars. In the meanwhile, the CDFG will send a formal inquiry to the interim Foundation Chairman of the Board, Warner Chabot, and cc'd to Karin Strasser Kauffman and Terry Jackson.

VII. UPDATE: STATE MUSSEL WATCH REPORT

In accordance with the Advisory Council's direction to secure a source of long-term funding for the State Mussel Watch Program (SMWP), a proposal has been prepared by Mark Stephenson (CDFG, Director of the SMWP) to submit to State legislatures in the hopes of receiving supportive legislative action. There is a tentative meeting set for December 12, 1995 with Assemblyman Bruce McPherson. Senator Henry Mello will also be approached.

Marc Del Piero announced that, due to his position on the State Water Control Board and a perceived conflict of interest, he can no longer serve in any capacity on the Advisory Council's Mussel Watch subcommittee. The Chair directed that Greg Cailliet be invited to replace him.

VIII. REVIEW: CENTRAL CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER RECYCLING PROJECT

Karin Strasser Kauffman reported on the recent hearing concerning the proposed Central California Regional Water Recycling Project. She applauded Pat Cotter, Environmental Scientist for the MBNMS, for his performance at the hearing and his staunch public opposition to ocean discharge alternatives. Pat Cotter commented that project proponents were adamant about maintaining all alternatives, including the drainage option, but that most of the public present at the hearing were opposed to ocean discharge.

The Advisory Council directed that copies of its position letter on the proposal be sent to the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Bureau of Reclamation. It was also suggested that the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) be asked to send a letter in opposition of ocean discharge alternatives.

IX. SANCTUARY MANAGER'S REPORT

Terry Jackson provided the MBNMS Manager's report. (Please see Attachment A.)

Ed Ueber provided the following report on events happening in the northern end of the MBNMS Sanctuary and the Gulf of the Farallones NMS:

... The Pier I project will be staged in phases.

... Jeff Benoit, Director of the Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) Division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), attended a meeting of the Sanctuary and Reserves Managers in San Francisco, and was pleased with the spirit of cooperation between the local, state, and federal agencies in the area.

... The GFNMS is working on designing signs for the northern end of the MBNMS.

... The Santa Rosa sewage project is moving toward the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) stage.

... An intertidal monitoring project is currently in progress. There is tremendous public

interest in the program.

... Concern remains over the ATOC project and its impact on marine mammals.

Steve Kimple provided the following report on the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (ESNERR):

... The Reserve's evaluation from NOAA went very well.

... A student of Jim Harvey's at Moss Landing Marine Labs has been studying a Caspian Tern colony nesting on the Reserve for a couple of years and has reported a total collapse of the colony -- only 12 hatched this year. Samples from the colony identified high concentrations of pesticides that have not been legally used in several years. The presumption is that toxins were in the sediment from the Pajaro and Salinas River that entered into the Slough during the floods of 1994/95. There are no doubts about the chemicals being the cause of failure in the ESNERR Caspian Tern colony.

X. REPORT FROM THE SANCTUARIES AND RESERVES DIVISION

Liz Moore, a Program Specialist from the Sanctuaries and Reserves Headquarters in Washington, D. C., answered questions and provided information about the status of issues concerning the MBNMS. Her report included mention of the following:

... Compliments to the Sanctuary Advisory Council for the outstanding work it has accomplished over the past year. The Olympic Coast Sanctuary Advisory Council was modeled after Monterey Bay's and its first meeting is scheduled for January 18, 1996.

... A formal rule on Shark Chumming is awaiting signatures from Jeff Benoit and the Department of Commerce. It is expected to be out before Christmas and there will be a 30-day comment period. The RAP report on shark chumming has been a tremendous help to the process. (NOTE: If Council members see any advertisement for shark chumming trips please forward them to Terry Jackson.)

... Headquarters is currently working on a marketing plan for the Sanctuary Program and will send someone to Monterey to give a presentation on the plan when it is complete.

... The Sanctuaries and Reserves Division (SRD) is very impressed with the MBNMS WQPP and will be allocating money from other programs to support it.

... The Reauthorization of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act is in March 1996. Headquarters is already working on this.

... The final interviews for the new SRD Chief are scheduled for December 18-19, 1995; The timeline for a final decision remains uncertain.

... A Notice of Public Rule for Jade is targeted for Christmas.

... The General Permit process is being revised and a discussion of the new Institutional Permits are being included. It is hoped that Dr. Charles Wahle and others will be able to visit Monterey in early Spring 1996 to explain the revisions in more detail.

... The Vessel Traffic Safety study is in the formal routing stage; there have been some concerns expressed about the language in the report and it has been sent to the Coast Guard. The timeline for completion of the project is still uncertain.

XI. REPORTS FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

Sanctuary Education Panel (SEP) -- Dorris Welch provided the following highlights of the group's activities:

... The next meeting of the SEP is January 11 at LML at 2:00 p.m. (NOTE: The January meeting was canceled. The February meeting will be Thursday, February 8 from 3:00 - 5:30 p.m. at MBARI in Moss Landing.)

... The working group is implementing protocol changes, such as: structuring the monthly meetings as working sessions rather than information exchanges; posting special notices rather than allotting time on the agenda for them; and designating subcommittees to help the group work more effectively.

... The SEP has decided on the educational component of the Sanctuary Symposium in March 1996. Dorris encouraged all Advisory Council members to get involved with the Symposium in some way. The next meeting on the Symposium is January 11, 1996 at AMBAG.

... The Long Marine Lab 40-page book on the Sanctuary is progressing; the outline is completed. The timeline for completion is Spring 1996.

Research Activity Panel (RAP) -- Andrew DeVogelaere presented the following highlights on the group's activities:

... The next RAP meeting will be Friday, December 8, 1995. (NOTE: the January meeting of the RAP was canceled. The February meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 9, 1996 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at CDFG.)

... The RAP has changed their meeting dates to the second Friday of every month.

... MOUs are being developed so that National Undersea Research Program (NURP) equipment can be used in the MBNMS.

... John Pearse received funding from Sea Grant to conduct intertidal monitoring in the MBNMS; the Minerals Management Service has set up an intertidal monitoring program in the southern section of the MBNMS. Andrew is working on both projects.

... The CDFG is very interested in working with the NMFS to take over some of facilities at Piedras Blancas.

... Further research in the former Fort Ord restricted zone revealed both natural and man-made objects. MBARI, Moss Landing Marine Labs, and the U.S. Geological Survey will continue investigating. The Army has been generous in helping to come up with some of the extra funds needed to do the sediment sampling.

John Calambokidis will be researching whale activity in the MBNMS

... Greg Cailliet is currently attending an All-Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI) conference in Washington, D.C. There is considerable interest in designating the MBNMS as a marine ATBI site. The University of California - Santa Cruz site on Fort Ord would possibly become an ATBI center. The Monterey delegation, consisting of Greg Cailliet (MLML), Don Potts (UCSC), Jim Nybakken (MLML), Jim Barry (MBARI), and Eric Hochberg (Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History), along with the Center for Marine Conservation and the Smithsonian Institution are planning a follow-up workshop in Monterey. Greg will be involved with coordinating the event.

... There is a new Research Coordinator at Elkhorn Slough NERR -- Jane Caffrey. She is also the newest member of the RAP.

Conservation Working Group (CWG) -- Rachel Saunders had to leave the meeting early and was unable to provide a report on the highlights of the working group.

XII. REPORT: BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH BUSINESS, TOURISM, AND THE SANCTUARY

Following discussion about the proposed December 4 meeting in Half Moon Bay, it was decided that a strong Sanctuary and Advisory Council presence was imperative given the sensitivities of the area and the overall importance of the project. Therefore, Terry Jackson agreed to attend the meeting.

With respect to the "Building Partnerships" workshop scheduled for Monterey on December 13, Advisory Council members requested that the meeting be postponed until after the new year.

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

There will be an Advisory Council Public Relations Workshop on January 12, 1996 from 9:00 - 1:00 p.m. (NOTE: Due to the Furlough, this workshop has been postponed until early February.)

The next Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 26, 1996. In accordance with Advisory Council direction that the meetings be shorter, future sessions will adjourn by 1:00 p.m. when possible.

The meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. DeLay
MBNMS Advisory Council Coordinator

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