

MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY  
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, January 26, 1996  
Pt. Lobos State Reserve  
Highway One, Carmel, CA

AGENDA

- 9:00 Coffee and Sign In
- 9:30 Call to Order, Roll Call, Approval of December Meeting Minutes
- 9:45 Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
- 10:00 Presentation: Calif. Council on Biodiversity
- 10:30 Discussion: Coast Guard, Group Monterey Potential Reduction
- 10:45 Discussion: Cruise Ships in Monterey Bay
- 11:00 Sanctuary Manager's Report:  
- Status of the Sanctuary Foundation  
- Issues: Jade Cove; Shark Chumming; Enforcement  
- Update: State Mussel Watch Program; License Plate Program
- 11:45 Working Group Reports: - Education, Research, Conservation
- 12:30 Announcements from Council Members
- 1:00 Adjourn

MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, January 26, 1996  
Pt. Lobos State Reserve, Hudson House  
Highway One, Carmel, California

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council met on Friday, January 26, 1996 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:	Brian Baird	Harbors:	Joe Townsend
Agriculture:	Not Represented	CCC:	Tami Grove
At Large:	Steve Webster	CA EPA:	Marc Del Piero

At Large:	Karin Strasser Kauffman	Recreation:	Tom LaHue
Coast Guard:	Dean Lee	Fishing:	Dave Danbom
Conservation:	Rachel Saunders	Tourism:	Ed Brown
Diving:	Ed Cooper	Education:	Dorris Welch
Research:	Greg Cailliet	Business & Industry:	Steve Abbott

The following non-voting members were present as indicated:

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

## I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:35 a.m.

## II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The Draft minutes from the December 1, 1995 meeting were approved as amended.

## III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

1) Dr. Jim Hughes -- expressed concern that individuals in San Mateo County feel disenfranchised from the Advisory Council and would like to be represented on it in more force.

In response to the comment, the Chair mentioned efforts are made to ensure participation from both the communities located in the northern and southern ends of the Sanctuary including: press releases and contacts with media; at least one Advisory Council meeting per year is held in the northern and southern ends; and representation on the Advisory Council is not based upon geographic location and is open to all who apply for the positions.

Following some discussion, it was decided that the Advisory Council will institute a meeting schedule that includes the northern and southern ends of the Sanctuary more often. Advisory Council members also directed that there be an advance schedule of meetings and locations ready for approval at the next meeting.

2) Aileen Loe, CALTRANS -- introduced the Draft Outline for CALTRANS' long-term management strategy for Piedras Blancas and the elephant seal situation. A full presentation on the issue and proposed management strategy will be a topic on the Sanctuary Advisory Council's next meeting agenda. (Please see Attachment A).

The California Coastal Commission requested that the Advisory Council direct the Research Activity Panel to provide some scientific evidence about marine mammals, specifically elephant seals, that may provide environmentally responsible solutions to the problem. The California Coastal Commission will also provide an presentation on the CALTRANS plan at the next Advisory Council meeting and action from the Research Activity Panel will be formally requested at that time.

Council members were reminded that information only was being solicited from the Research Activity Panel, not advice.

All needed documentation on this issue will be provided to the Council in advance of the next meeting and immediately to the Research Activity Panel. The issue of marine mammal harassment and CALTRANS' and the California Coastal Commission's perspective on the harassment issue will be presented to the Research Activity Panel at their next meeting scheduled for Friday, February 2, 1996.

3) Ed Cooper, Advisory Council Diving Representative -- expressed his concern for the amount of kelp that is being taken by mechanical harvesters. Ed requested that the Advisory Council investigate the kelp harvesting leases, harvesting methods, and impacts on the kelp forests of the MBNMS.

Advisory Council members were reminded that as kelp harvesting is an exempt area, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary does not have jurisdiction over the activity. The Sanctuary Manager suggested that there be a presentation about kelp harvesting, and the many uses for kelp, at the next meeting. Representatives from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and from harvesting companies such as KELCO should be invited to give presentations.

Greg Cailliet, Chair of the Research Activity Panel, commented that literature about the regulations governing kelp harvesting and its impacts can be provided, but he needs to know what kind of harvesting is in question? Greg will assist in coordinating this aspect of the next Advisory Council meeting.

The Advisory Council indicated that it should be on record as having sent a letter to the appropriate entities expressing concern about the possible negative impacts from kelp harvesting.

The Advisory Council recommended that the Sanctuary office contact the CDFG to request legal information about the issue.

#### IV. PRESENTATION: CALIFORNIA COUNCIL ON BIODIVERSITY

Mr. Carl Rountree from the Bureau of Land Management, introduced the California Biodiversity Council (CBC) on behalf of the California Resources Agency, Secretary Douglas Wheeler, and the signatory agencies.

The CBC is an organization of federal, state and local government members working cooperatively to ensure protection of the state's biological diversity. The CBC was formed in 1991 and has been chaired by California Resources Agency Secretary Wheeler for the last five years.

The CBC presumes that those who enjoy and use the land are the ones most likely to develop a plan for protection and economic sustainability. Therefore, local solutions and participation are the key to the program's success.

The CBC is presently working to include marine biodiversity in its programs and has scheduled a meeting in Monterey in March 1996. It will be a one day forum titled "Creating Linkages Between the Health of Biodiversity and the Monterey Bay" and will focus on issues affecting the MBNMS.

The forum will feature two panels: 1) examining the linkages between occurrences happening inland and their impact on the marine environment through the watersheds. Dr. Holly Price, Director of the MBNMS Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP), will be a panel participant. Also participating will be Brian Baird, Ocean Program Manager for the

California Resources Agency and Advisory Council member, who will make a presentation on the state's perspective of the issue; 2) presenting differing points of view about biodiversity to ensure that all sides are being represented.

The CBC will be drafting a letter to Terry Jackson inviting the Sanctuary to participate in the conference and as a member of the Council.

While on the subject of biodiversity, Greg Cailliet talked briefly about his participation in a conference on All-Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI) held in Washington, D.C. this past December. The conference, co-sponsored by the Center for Marine Conservation and the Smithsonian Institution, addressed issues of biodiversity including efforts to improve studies of marine biodiversity. Greg, along with Don Potts (University of California Santa Cruz), Jim Nybakken (Moss Landing Marine Labs), Jim Barry (Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute), and Eric Hochberg (Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History), attended the conference and proposed the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) as a marine ATBI site. Response to the Monterey delegation's proposal was generally positive and a follow-up conference on International Marine Biodiversity will be scheduled for Fall 1996 in Monterey.

Greg suggested that the CBC conference in March might be a good time to introduce the proposed specifics of an International Marine Biodiversity program centered in the MBNMS. Andrew DeVogelaere, MBNMS Research Coordinator, Holly Price, WQPP Director, and Greg will coordinate with the CBC.

#### V. DISCUSSION: COAST GUARD, GROUP MONTEREY POTENTIAL REDUCTION

The Chair expressed concern about the impacts to the MBNMS if the Coast Guard, Group Monterey were to be reduced. She requested that the Coast Guard Representative to the Advisory Council, Dean Lee, provide the group with a briefing on the facts at hand.

Prior to explaining the proposed changes, Lee stated that he was providing a briefing only, and was not soliciting support or asking the Sanctuary Advisory Council to take action in any way.

Lee explained that the Coast Guard has been forced by mandated budget reductions to make cutbacks affecting multiple Coast Guard units around the country. The state of California, and the MBNMS in particular, will be affected in the following manner: 1) the Eleventh District will be closed and consolidated with the Pacific Area Command in Alameda. The Area Commander will then be double-hatted to serve as both area commander and Eleventh Coast Guard District. In that capacity, he will oversee all operations on the west coast, Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, and the Far East. This action has been approved and implementation of the changes will begin soon if not immediately; 2) Under consideration at the present is the dis-establishment and division of Coast Guard Group Monterey. Group Monterey would be consolidated with Groups San Francisco and Los Angeles/Long Beach with the existing operational area divided at the San Luis Obispo/Monterey County line. Group Monterey would be converted to a Station; no boats or cutters will be removed. Therefore, the proposed changes will have no adverse effect on the Coast Guard's operational activity and should be transparent to the boating public. The changes are still under review and have not yet been approved. A decision is expected by March 1, 1996.

Should the proposed Coast Guard restructuring become a reality for Group Monterey, all macro-based activities such as the work done on an enforcement plan for the MBNMS

would then have to be coordinated with Group San Francisco. Currently, Dean Lee has the authority to respond and make decisions on issues facing the Sanctuary. Under the new plan, the ranking officer for a Station would most probably be a Lieutenant. It is unlikely that the Group Commander in San Francisco will be able to attend the Sanctuary Advisory Council meetings. Lee said this responsibility will likely be delegated to the commanding officers at Station Monterey.

Advisory Council members suggested the following action:

- 1) Write the Commandant and local Congressional Representatives to voice Advisory Council concerns about the Coast Guard reduction. The letter should indicate the near completion of an agreement on a viable enforcement plan in the MBNMS and that a reduction in the Coast Guard would significantly impede these enforcement efforts. The main focus of the letter should be to point out the values of a coordinated enforcement effort.
- 2) Send the same correspondence to all of the congressional delegations including the chair of the Committee responsible for the Coast Guard's budget.
- 3) Send a strong letter to Governor Wilson describing the loss of a Federal agency and its impact for the Sanctuary as well as asking for his support.
- 4) Send letters to Secretary Wheeler and Secretary Strock and to representatives of the local jurisdictions.
- 5) Send a copy of the letter to the California Coastal Commission, Leon Panetta, and Assemblyman Bruce McPherson.

A Motion that the Chair sign letters to the above mentioned representatives was approved with one abstention from the Coast Guard representative.

## VI. DISCUSSION: CRUISE SHIPS IN MONTEREY BAY

In response to an inquiry from the Coast Guard in San Francisco, the Sanctuary was asked what the public reaction would be to a cruise line stopping on a regular basis in Monterey Bay. As the official public sounding board for the Sanctuary, the topic was included on the agenda in order to learn what the Advisory Council members felt their constituent interests would be. Of paramount concern for everyone was the protection of marine life and Sanctuary resources that might be impacted. Nevertheless, general comments were positive about the many educational and economic opportunities that cruise ship passengers may provide for the Sanctuary.

The wide attendance from the media and public resulted in a decision by the Council to hold a second meeting specifically dedicated to discussion of cruise lines in Monterey. The city of Monterey and surrounding cities will be invited to participate. In addition, all of the cruise lines will be invited to give presentations.

## VII. SANCTUARY MANAGERS REPORT

Terry Jackson provided the Sanctuary manager's report. (Please see Attachment B.)

With respect to the update on the State Mussel Watch Program, Linda Horning, from

Assemblyman Bruce McPherson's office, reported that the Assemblyman is carrying a bill and has drafted language that has been turned over to the California Environmental Protection Agency (CAEPA), the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) requesting funding and/or support for the bill. The bill is expected to be introduced at the end of February. Jennifer Stanley, from Assemblyman McPherson's office in Sacramento, is in charge of the bill, and can be contacted should anyone need more detailed information. Horning commented that support for the SMWP appears to be non-controversial thus far, and asked Advisory Council members to let her or Jennifer know if they of any opposition.

Horning concluded by remarking that the Assemblyman is also looking into a finance letter to attach to the Governor's budget that would preclude the need for legislation. She reiterated that the message about the SMWP has definitely been sent to the highest authorities.

In response to questions about the Sanctuary Foundation, Terry reported that the Foundation is currently operating and that every effort is being made to secure a grant from the California Department of Fish and Game. There are a number of problems that NOAA and the California Department of Fish and Game general counsels are currently working out.

Greg Cailliet expressed the Research Activity Panel's concerns that expenses incurred in the process of administering the funds could be detrimental to the Foundation.

## VIII. WORKING GROUP REPORTS

Sanctuary Education Panel (SEP) -- Dorris Welch provided a report on the recent activities of the Sanctuary Education Panel which included the following:

... The Sanctuary publication, "Window to the Sanctuary," produced by the Long Marine Lab, will be targeted toward locals and school children, will also be useful for tourists. Advisory Council members are invited to provide input on any publication about the Sanctuary.

... Advisory Council members are encouraged to help distribute flyers and to spread the word about the Sanctuary Symposium. A wide audience is hoped for.

Sanctuary members who want to become more involved should contact Dorris Welch. Ed Brown and Karin Strasser Kauffman offered to prepare presentations to help bring the hospitality industry to the conference.

... The Sanctuary was represented at the Bay Area Environmental Education Resources Fair in San Francisco.

The next meeting of the SEP is Thursday, February 8 at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute. Items on the agenda of interest to the Advisory Council include the finalization of the SEP's public goals for the year; i.e. utilizing the media for Sanctuary awareness and providing educational material for tourists. The SEP will also be defining their strategies to meet these goals. The group wants to keep the distinction between public relations and education, but realizes the need to have a strong public relations campaign for the Sanctuary.

Research Activity Panel (RAP) -- Greg Cailliet provided a report on the group's activities which included a discussion of research activities occurring in the northern end of the Sanctuary which the RAP is not advised about. Because there is not a formal Memorandum of Understanding between the Gulf of the Farallones NMS and the Monterey Bay NMS, and uncertainty exists about the management authority, the RAP requested that some movement be made to clarify the questions with the understanding that cooperation with the manager of the GFNMS will continue.

A motion that the Advisory Council take steps to resolve the questions of management was tabled by the Advisory Council Chair on the grounds that it was not a scheduled topic on the current agenda and, therefore should be discussed at a future meeting. Council members requested that the topic be placed on the next meeting agenda.

Also discussed at the meeting was: the site characterization project; the on-going work by John Calambokidis on humpback whales and associated marine mammals; intertidal monitoring projects; the update of the MBNMS Research Plan; putting oceanographic detectors on the jetski buoys; the research component of the Sanctuary Symposium; and the McArthur research cruise this Spring. The Working Group welcomed its newest member, Jane Caffrey, the new Research Coordinator for the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Greg commented that sediments from Fort Ord will be analyzed and the whole project will soon be completed. 50-calibre shells were found in the Fort Ord area and the Army will be responsible for cleaning them up. Pat Cotter will be going out on the ROV to look at some of the sites and to investigate the man-made objects found in the former restricted zone.

The next meeting of the RAP is scheduled for Friday, February 2 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the conference room of the California Department of Fish and Game.

Conservation Working Group (CWG) -- Rachel Saunders provided the report on the group's activities which included:

- ... Organizing a panel discussion for the conservation element of the Sanctuary Symposium;

- ... Submitting comments on the MBNMS Scientific Research Plan;

- ... Participating in a dialogue with the jetski industry;

- ... Working to develop a viable enforcement plan for the MBNMS. Rachel attended a meeting with Congressman Farr, State Senator Mello, and others about enforcement in the Sanctuary and was very encouraged by the level of importance the issue is being given. Meetings on enforcement in the Sanctuary have also been initiated through the BAY NET volunteer program and the local law enforcement agencies.

Rachel asked if it was possible to have a representative from the California Department of Fish and Game on the Advisory Council to enhance coordination between the department and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Council members requested that this be a discussion topic on the next meeting agenda.

Saunders reported that eighteen people are participating in the BAY NET volunteer program, the first field docent program for the sanctuary. Docents are located along the recreational trail in Monterey and Pacific Grove every Friday through Sunday. In addition to their role in educating the public, BAY NET volunteers are enhancing voluntary compliance within the Sanctuary.

The next meeting of the CWG is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Moss Landing Harbor District Office.

## IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

- 1) SAC Public Relations Campaign -- an agenda for the Public Relations workshop scheduled for Friday, February 2 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. was provided to Council

members. All were encouraged to review the document carefully and come prepared.

2) There will be a Public Hearing on February 6 at 7:30 p.m. in Santa Cruz. The economic survey report produced by the Santa Cruz Economic Development Task Force will be presented before the Board of Supervisors at that time. All Advisory Council members are encouraged to attend.

By popular consensus, the next meeting of the Advisory Council will be on Friday, March 1, 1996. The location will be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. DeLay  
MBNMS Advisory Council Coordinator

Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
FINAL - April 30, 1996  
Page 3