

Assessing the Role of Scientific Information in Sanctuary Management

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ONMS • Fall 2010

PhD candidate field biologist SCUBA diver interdisciplinary scientist Marine Ecologist naturalist Galapagos seaweed expert nearshore oceanographer collaborator coastal resident UCSC Banana Slug green thumb environmental chemist traveler volunteer independent contractor educator lab manager concerned citizen research coordinator evolving social scientist UCD Aggie water athlete science interpreter 2009 Foster Scholar



University of California, Davis Graduate Group in Ecology Department of Environmental Science & Policy

... and Bodega Marine Laboratory

... and fieldwork in the Monterey Bay!

DISSERTATION: 'Zones of Impact'

HUMAN COMPONENT

small-scale river runoff

environmental chemistry

kelp forest ecology

nearshore oceanography

photo courtesy of MBNMS

DISSERTATION: 'Zones of Impact'

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE: Dr. John Largier – Coastal Oceanographer Dr. Peter Green – Environmental Chemist Dr. Mark Lubell – Political Scientist

Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Pr 7 will never lorger I odde't do it alone- it was a combination of hard work lack and a helping hand along the way."	ogram
About the Scholarship House Apply This Year's	Home Scholars

Dr. Foster was a former Director of NOS & NMSP.

- supports graduate students in marine science, particularly women & minorities
 - tuition & stipend
 - research collaboration































What I am doing here?

ONMS Collaboration ...and part of my dissertation research!

"SCIENCE MATTERS TO SOCIETY" ...but it has to be <u>relevant</u> ...and it has to be <u>accessible</u> ...and it is only <u>one facet</u> of consideration



How do scientists share their knowledge?



Often disconnected from the management and policy processes



THIS ecologist delves into social science to answer questions about science...

How does scientific information (SI) play a role in management & policy decisions?

- Initial focus on coastal water quality networks
- Since extended to ONMS & advisory councils (all 14 sites!)



Research Goals

1. Evaluate the flow of SI through advisory councils as well as its valuation and use where recommendations are made to sanctuary managers

2. Assess how sanctuary managers value and use council recommendations along with their own understanding of the SI

3. Identify conditions under which SI can facilitate collaboration and improve the effectiveness of sanctuary management



Why does it matter?

LOCALLY

- Improve the overall understanding & effectiveness of sanctuary management
 - across multiple spatial scales &/or characteristics
 - advisory council-NMS feedback loops
- Potential to highlight advisory councils & ONMS as a model system for incorporating stakeholders and science



Why does it matter?

GENERALLY

- Inform current lack of academic understanding about the role of SI in resource management decisions
 - tool facilitating collaborative action
 - extent to which it is useful/valuable
- Offer perspective to scientists seeking to improve their communication of relevant findings to appropriate audiences



The Details

Stage 1: Observational Visits

• West Coast Region (5 sites)

Stage 2: Introductory Visits & Interviews

- introduce self & research
- exploratory interviews w/ advisory council members and NMS staff (n ~ 10)

Stage 3: Online Survey

 all council members, relevant NMS staff, and relevant working groups



My 'Sanctuaries Tour'

- 1. Olympic Coast
- 2. Thunder Bay
- 3. Gulf of Farallones
- 4. Stellwagen Bank
- 5. Monitor
- 6. Fagatele Bay
- 7. Flower Garden Banks
- 8. Cordell Bank
- 9. Channel Islands

10. Monterey Bay

- 11. Florida Keys
- 12. Hawaiian Island Humpback Whale
- 13. Gray's Reef
- 14. Papahanaumokuakea Monument



What ACs & ONMS get out of it...

INITIALLY

- my gratitude!!!
- an opportunity to share your individual perspective

PRODUCTS

- preliminary results @ 2011 SAC Summit
- official report to ONMS & SACs
- publication as a chapter of my dissertation
- publication in academic journal(s)



How you can help...

Stage 2: Interviews (Sept 2010 – Jan 2011)

- standardized across all sites
- selected by site & perspectives
- offered <u>ANY</u> staff or council member who is interested

Stage 3: Online Survey (March 2011)

- <u>ALL</u> council members, including alternates
- key NMS staff (local, regional & national)
- key working groups



Confidentiality & Time

Interviews & survey responses are considered, saved and reported on <u>anonymously</u>.

Questions can always be skipped or discussed off-record by your choice.

- Interview: 30-60 minutes
- Survey: 30 minutes



QUESTIONS?

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