

**MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Final Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2017
Coast Unified School District Auditorium
Cambria, CA**

VOTING MEMBERS

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| Agriculture: Jimmy Dutra | CA State Parks: Dan Falat |
| AMBAG: Kristen Petersen | Conservation: Katherine O’Dea |
| At Large: Gary Hoffmann | Diving: Brian Nelson |
| At Large: Dan Haifley | Education: absent |
| At Large: PJ Webb | Commercial Fishing: Kathy Fosmark |
| Business & Industry: absent | Harbors: Steve Scheiblaue |
| CA Coastal Commission: absent | Recreation: Gary Pezzi |
| CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife: Deb Wilson-Vandenberg | Recreational Fishing: Rich Hughett |
| CA EPA: Maria de la Paz Carpio-Obeso | Research: John Hunt |
| CA Resources Agency: absent | Tourism: Mike Bekker |

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

- Channel Islands NMS: absent
- College: absent
- Cordell Banks NMS: absent
- Elkhorn Slough NERR: absent
- Greater Farallones NMS: absent
- Monterey Bay NMS: Paul Michel
- National Marine Fisheries Service: absent
- U.S. Coast Guard: absent

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| Alternates present in audience: | Number of audience members 9:00 AM: |
| Keith Rootsart – Diving | 9 |
| Mindy Maschmeyer – Tourism | Number of audience members 1:00 PM: |
| Bart Selby – Recreation | 5 |
| Jose Montes – Recreational Fishing | |
| Dawn Hayes – Monterey Bay NMS | |

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, SWEARING-IN AND MEETING MINUTES

Chair PJ Webb called the meeting to order and Secretary Brian Nelson attended to roll call.

District Two Supervisor for San Luis Obispo County, Bruce Gibson made a brief welcome statement to the Advisory Council (AC) to start the meeting. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He commented on his appreciation for the council’s thoughtful work on reconciling so many interests during the Management Plan Review.

Amanda Rice, Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) President, welcomed the AC to Cambria. She mentioned the importance of the sanctuary and the area surrounding Cambria: amazing

offshore resources and home to Monterey Pines, steelhead, goby and many other species. She also commented on CCSO's responsibility for a 5 square mile area around Cambria, stewardship for native species and management of invasive species.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Approval of April, 2017 DRAFT Meeting Minutes

MOTION: John Hunt, Maria de la Paz Carpo-Obeso seconded.

(Vote: 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions)

II. STANDING ITEM: Superintendent Report

Paul Michel discussed the recent Executive Order 13795, Review of National Marine Sanctuaries and Marine National Monuments designated or expanded since April 28, 2007. There will be a 30-day comment period opening Monday, June 26th. It was requested public comment focus on the following criteria: 1) An analysis of the acreage affected and an analysis of the budgetary impacts of the costs of managing each National Marine Sanctuary or Marine National Monument designation or expansion; 2) An analysis of the adequacy of any required Federal, State and tribal consultations conducted before the designations or expansions; 3) The opportunity costs associated with potential energy and mineral exploration and production from the Outer Continental Shelf, in addition to any impacts on production in the adjacent region. MBNMS Staff is busy working on a review of Davidson Seamount.

In the past year, the young adults who discovered the golf balls in the sanctuary near Pebble Beach have collected over 20,000 balls with MBNMS and Monterey Bay Aquarium. MBNMS continues to conduct snorkel and dive surveys to assess the total number of golf balls and circulation patterns. A caddy guessed the average number of balls that go in the water per player per round is three per golfer. With an estimated 62,000 rounds of golf per year, that would be about 4.6 million golf balls over the last 25 years.

Paul also noted the number of events coming up this summer and fall for the 25th MBNMS anniversary. The 25th anniversary events ramp up August 26th at the Coastal Discover Center Ocean Fair. Sanctuary supporters will be recognized on September 9th at the Sanctuary Exploration Center. The Anniversary Gala will be held on September 16th in Monterey. The Monterey Beach Sports Fest on September 23rd will include a MBNMS anniversary celebration at Del Monte Beach, culminating in a free movie night.

MBNMS Staff is working with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation to create a local chapter for MBNMS. There is a growing need to do fundraising for MBNMS programs. California Marine Sanctuary Foundation is primarily a fiscal sponsor to hire contract staff with a focus on state MPA education and outreach. Their focus is not fundraising.

MBNMS Staff is also busy drafting action plan outlines for the Management Plan Review. They are focusing on what MBNMS goals are for the next five to ten years.

Finally he gave an update on the Coastal Discovery Center (CDC). The CDC has been open for eleven years this summer. There have been 175,000 visitors in that time with an average of 15,000-18,000 per year while being open only part time. Docents have contributed 33,000 hours and 10,000 students have visited in those ten years. MBNMS is working with CA State Parks and ONMS to

build an outdoor shore whaling exhibit next to the CDC. The exhibit should be completed by the end of August.

III. STANDING ITEM: MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gary Hoffmann, At-Large primary: A whale watching operation in Monterey Bay is using drones as a marketing tool. Last week during World Oceans Day, at least eight Mylar balloons were picked up in the bay. This week World Turtles Day occurred. There was a focus on straws ingested through the nostrils of turtles. Some countries have outlawed the use of straws. Lastly, this year's state budget funding is being considered for whale disentanglement activities.

Katherine O'Dea, Conservation primary: Save Our Shores is well into the busy season with our Summer of Clean beaches campaign in full swing. Part of this campaign includes our holiday relief program. On Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day we stage outreach events on the holiday, with staff and volunteers literally walking the beaches that receive the heaviest influx of tourists reminding people to essentially "pack out" what they "pack in" and/or properly dispose of their trash/unwanted items and remember to pick up beach toys, etc. We follow up the holiday outreach with multiple cleanups the morning after. Memorial Day's outreach and cleanup were very successful. Fourth of July is our biggest event of the season and I will provide volunteer and trash removal numbers in my next organization update (for August meeting).

CEMEX advocacy continues at an increasing pace. There are now three pending actions against Cemex:

1. Coastal Commission focused on the issue of vested rights and violations to the Coastal Act
2. State Lands Commission focused on a mandatory lease to remove a public trust resource (i.e., sand), which will trigger an Environmental Impact Review
3. City of Marina focused on a possible public nuisance suit.

However, the most important information is a request for support to turn out at the next Coastal Commission Meeting, which will be July 13 – 14 at CSUMB. The Coastal Commission will final be announcing the outcome of their year+ negotiations. We do not yet know what to expect, but we want to pack the room with concerned citizens. We do not have an exact date/time for this agenda item, but have been assured it will be on the agenda. We will be making public announcements, sending out e-mails and using Social Media posts to get as big a turnout as possible.

Save Our Shores is also supporting Plastics Free July, which I believe is a nationwide effort to ask people to go plastic free or as plastic free as they possible can during the whole month of July.

We are also monitoring Pres. Trump's actions as they related to offshore drilling and Sanctuary reviews to stay abreast of any potential direct impacts to the MBNS and to ensure we are ready to mobilize if a real threat to the Sanctuary emerges.

Jimmy Dutra, Agriculture primary: no new announcements

Deb Wilson-Vandenberg, CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife alternate: Salmon Fisheries - the commercial ocean salmon fishery opened May 1 south of Pigeon Point and will remain open through June 30. The commercial season started off strong, though landings significantly declined throughout May primarily due to low catch rates followed by a slight uptick during the first week of June. All other management areas are currently closed to commercial salmon fishing to protect vulnerable Klamath River fall Chinook which are contacted at higher rates to the north. Recreational ocean salmon fisheries opened south of Horse Mountain (near Shelter Cove; Humboldt County)

on April 1, with a two-week closure during the first half of May in the San Francisco management area. The area south of Point Sur closed for the season on May 31 to protect endangered Sacramento River winter Chinook where they are most vulnerable to incidental harvest. Coastwide, fishing effort was hampered by intermittent rough seas and generally low catch rates, punctuated by short periods of good catch out of San Francisco Bay. Monterey recreational fisheries continue to perform well below preseason expectations.

California Recreational Fisheries Survey - Effort was very low (or non-existent) for all fishing modes. Private boat anglers targeted rockfish, lingcod, California halibut, and salmon. There was moderate catch of rockfish and low to no catch of CA halibut and salmon. Shore modes had catch of baitfish, leopard sharks, and surfperches.

Pismo Clams - May 26th CDFW staff and volunteers conducted a survey for Pismo clams on Sunset State Beach, Santa Cruz County as part of a 10 year relative abundance data base for this species in the Monterey Bay area. The mean density of 0.13 clams per square foot was the highest observed since May 2011 (based on 26 plots in two transects). The average size was about 35 mm (n=17) with two distinct size modes, a smaller one from 10-15 mm and a larger one from 45-50 mm -- which may be indicative of a recent recruitment event.

Coastal Pelagic Species - Squid landings picked up in May. From May 1 thru June 11 the fishery brought in about 1.5 mil lbs of market squid from Monterey Bay and the Big Sur coast. Of note, samplers observed pelagic red crabs in June samples. Last Friday, the Pacific Fishery Management Council set new harvest limits for Pacific mackerel for the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 seasons @ 26,293 mt and 23,840 mt, respectively based on results of the new assessment.

Dan Haifley, At-Large primary: a paddle out in memory of Jack O'Neill will occur July 9th 11AM at Pleasure Point in Santa Cruz; and memorial contributions in his name can be sent through oneillseaodyssey.org.

PJ Webb, At-Large primary: It is with sadness that I note the passing of Ron Massengill. Ron was my predecessor on the SAC and my mentor. He volunteered on many projects including the Cambria Fishing Club, Reef Check and BeachCOMBERs. I sought out his advice on Sanctuary issues and he was generous in giving of his time and expertise. He was a great support of the Sanctuary.

The World Heritage Site committee met to begin exploring what questions we wanted to ask, how to do information gathering and seeking outreach to our constituents about their questions. Al Budris is reaching out through CSUMB to Costa Rica for contacts and reports on their experiences with World Heritage Site designation and the results of the designation itself. Gary Hoffman and Dawn Hayes will reach out to Yellowstone for their experience with WHS designation. Steve Lindley offered scientific resources for study and research information. Al Budris offered a model to organize information received. A poll will go out for the next meeting with proposed dates.

Gary Pezzi, Recreation primary: no new announcements

Keith Rootsart, Diving alternate: For this bimonthly meeting, we are pleased to announce continued progress on the Artificial Reef state permitting progress. It is moving forward at a glacial pace but is so far without obstacles. We have emailed the June/July Diving Newsletter to 2603 subscribers, 661 (26%) of which were opened. We offered in the newsletter to talk to groups about the sanctuary but

have not received any inquiries yet for the next couple of months. Keith is chairing the application review for the Agriculture, Conservation, and Education alternate seats and has recruited one person for the Education seat and one person for the Conservation seat. Keith assisted PJ Webb in reviewing materials and suggesting questions for Trident Winds regarding the offshore windmill project. The nearshore urchin population is increasing at an alarming rate and there are many areas that were beautiful kelp forests that are now dominated by urchins. Keith is working with CDFW, Greater Farallones NMS, and Reef Check California to modify their Special Collection Permit to perform a replicate kelp restoration study on the central coast to inform a larger purple urchin removal project. Next big diving event in Monterey Bay will be the Monterey Shootout - Photography Competition and Symposium. August 25th and 26th sponsored by Backscatter in Monterey.

Mike Bekker, Tourism primary: Encouraged the Advisory Council to visit the United Nations Ocean Conference website: <https://oceanconference.un.org/>. It is fascinating what other countries are doing.

Rich Hughett, Recreational Fishing primary: Suggested MBNMS promoting patrons requesting a straw at restaurants rather than restaurants automatically providing one.

Kristen Petersen, AMBAG alternate: no new announcements

Steve Scheiblauber, Harbors primary: Mentioned Jack O'Neil was integral in harbors. Steve attended a listening session on artificial reefs with CDFW. There is a lot of interest in artificial reefs. A resolution of state policy is underway but the state is not well funded for it.

John Hunt, Research primary: no new announcements

Kathy Fosmark, Commercial Fishing primary: Mentioned whale entanglement bill SB 290 which would help fund the whale entanglement team. She also noted the take-reduction team with NMFS. There are new changes and data from the science community with easy to see progress to benefit cetaceans and turtles.

Maria de la Paz Carpio-Obeso, CA EPA primary: Water Quality Control Policy on the use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling (Once Through Cooling Policy) Implementation Activities - The OTC Policy requires the Statewide Advisory Committee on Cooling Water Intakes Structures (SACCWIS) to advise the State Water Board on whether the Policy's compliance schedule takes into account the reliability of California's electricity supply. The Policy states that every year the SACCWIS will present a report to the State Water Board. The 2017 SACCWIS Final Annual Report will be presented to the State Water Board on June 20, 2017. In the report, SACCWIS concludes that it has closely monitored the local reliability needs of the Encina Power Station and retires its request that the State Water Board defer the compliance date for Encina Units 2 through 5 until December 31, 2018, to maintain grid reliability. In addition, Pittsburg Generation Station came into compliance with the implementation plan schedule on December 31, 2016, one year before its originally projected date. Moss Landing Units 6 and 7 came into compliance on January 1, 2017, four years before its revised compliance date. SACCWIS does not anticipate nor recommend changes to any other final compliance schedules for remaining generating facilities in the OTC-Policy. Further information in the 2017 SACCWIS Report, please visit:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/cwa316/saccwis/docs/05042017_saccwis_an_rpt.pdf

Another activity under the OTC Policy is the OTC-Policy amendment for the Encina Power Station. The Draft Staff Report was released for public comment on May 23, 2017. Written comments must be received no later than 12:00 PM noon on Friday, July 7, 2017. We plan a State Water Board adoption hearing date on August 15, 2017.

In addition, the OTC Policy requires owners or operators of existing power plants to implement measures to mitigate the interim impingement and entrainment impacts resulting from their cooling water intake structures. Staff continues reviewing the information provided by the power plants owners and operators to calculate the first annual interim mitigation payments. The calculations for the fees require input values from each OTC facility, the interim mitigation payment will vary by facility and will be set by the State Water Board as part of the process of issuing an NPDES permit for an OTC facility.

Bacteria Provisions and a Water Quality Standards variance policy and Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California - The State Water Resources Control Board is proposing a statewide control program to protect recreational users from the effects of pathogens in California water bodies. The program would be adopted as amendments to both: the Inland Surface Water, Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Plan and the California Ocean Plan. Significant proposed program elements may include: new water quality objectives for both fresh and marine waters based on newly released United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) criteria; a reference beach/natural source exclusion process and high flow exemptions; and revised beach notification requirements. Staff is working on the Staff Report. It is planned to release the Staff Report for public comments on June 30, 2017.

Dan Falat, CA State Parks alternate: There has been an infusion with social media and education programs specifically related to the sanctuary and state parks surrounding the sanctuary. He foresees impacts on Highway 1 due to tourism this summer. Lastly, drones are a constant issue. State Parks is looking at all impacts and how to mitigate them.

Steve McGrath, Harbors alternate: A pilot dredging project has received grant money to move it forward. He thanked Paul Michel for his letter of support. He also thanked Steve Scheiblauer for his years of support and serving as the Harbors primary.

Mindy Maschmeyer, Tourism alternate: Monterey Bay Aquarium (MBA) participated in the recent UN Ocean Conference. Julie Packard presented on ocean acidification, ocean plastic pollution and sustainable international fisheries. UN members approved a call for action to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. MBA partnered with National Aquarium and Shedd Aquarium with the goal to elevate aquariums position as conservation organizations. This resulted in a collective announcement of business practices and the elimination of single-use plastics.

Jose Montes, Recreational Fishing alternate: Half Moon Bay Fishing Club will release 700,000 king salmon hatchlings over a three-week period next month.

Bart Selby, Recreation alternate: Mentioned a scientific paper on drones and whales that was reviewed by the GFNMS Overflight Working Group. The paper found drones do not disrupt the behavior of whales.

IV: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Alla Weinstein, Trident Winds

1. Request to present the proposed offshore wind project to MBNMS SAC.
2. Announce public info session on 6/20/17

Nan Cole, Sierra Club Santa Lucia Chapter

Proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary – Upcoming events to promote the efforts and voice support for the proposal.

V. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEM: Management Plan Review update – Wildlife Disturbance Outreach

Dawn Hayes reviewed the draft strategies and respective activities in the draft Wildlife Disturbance Action Plan for the Management Plan Review. The four strategies included in the action plan are: 1) mitigate wildlife disturbance from marine vessels and shore based activities; 2) mitigate wildlife disturbance from aircraft; 3) utilize administrative methods to reduce wildlife disturbance; and 4) utilize law enforcement resources to reduce wildlife disturbance. The activities for each strategy are available in the PowerPoint here: <http://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/2017/170616/agenda.html> MBNMS Staff is in the process of incorporating the Wildlife Disturbance – Ocean Noise Working Group recommendations, partner agencies' recommendations and additional AC recommendations. The draft action plan will be available for the AC to review before it is submitted to ONMS Headquarters for review and then again available for review before it is released for public comment.

Public Comment:

Cubby Cashen, Sea For Yourself Kayak Outfitters

Concern regarding animal interactions/businesses – Interactions between people/wildlife and enforcement. How businesses are using drones/footage to advertise and promote bad behaviors.

Advisory Council Member Discussion:

There was discussion to clarify some of the wording associated with the strategies and activities. Multiple council members believed the term 'manage' would be more appropriate to use than 'mitigate.'

VI: STANDING ITEM: Working Group Updates

Conservation Working Group (CWG):

No update

Research Activity Panel (RAP):

The Research Activity Panel met on May 12 at the Elkhorn Slough Reserve. Research Coordinator Kerstin Wasson hosted the meeting and gave a presentation on trends during the 25 years since sanctuary designation. These included decreases in freshwater inflows, increases in invasive species, changes in pollution types, sea level rise and related loss of marsh lands, and increases in sea otter numbers with related revival of eelgrass beds.

Cyndi Dawson of the California Ocean Protection Council gave an invited presentation on the State Marine Protected Area network, with a focus on monitoring program priorities and information delivery systems. The RAP invited Cyndi to help us learn more about the monitoring and information management activities of key sanctuary partners. The Ocean Protection Council has been proactive in supporting long-term monitoring and designing information systems that support linkages to other organizations' programs, and has engaged experts and technology companies to build and maintain these systems.

The RAP has been pursuing coordinated long-term monitoring and integrated information synthesis as the core framework for the MBNMS research and water quality teams as they develop their Action Plans for the Sanctuary Management Plan Update. The RAP has considered a regional approach that may involve coordination with other sanctuaries and their organizational partners. Five RAP members met with West Coast Regional Director Bill Douros, who shared encouragement for the overall approach and suggested a sequential approach starting with MBNMS.

RAP members met with Superintendent Paul Michel and Research Coordinator Andrew DeVogelaere, and mapped out a strategy based on envisioning future Sanctuary Condition Reports, both as static documents and shared web portals, and using these as targets to drive monitoring coordination with partners. The RAP will continue to update the SAC as progress is made toward the Management Plan Update.

Recreation and Tourism Subcommittee (RATS):

Items discussed were edits and refinements to the Friends of the Sanctuary Program. At this point, we are ready to introduce the program to a select group of businesses in a full presentation to capture responses, input, and remaining edits before presentation to the Sanctuary Advisory Council. We anticipate the SAC presentation to be on the agenda following management plan final comments. Businesses Type Selection – Hotel – Restaurant – Wharf Business – On water businesses - Winery Newsletter has been changed to include more video entertainment – Last Newsletter published June 9, 2017 605 active emails with a 28.9% open rate and a 10% click through rate. A special Newsletter was sent regarding the “Get into your Sanctuary” for August 12, 2017 the open rate on the same 605 emails is at 33.5% open rate and a 13.5% click through rate. The Recreation and Tourism eNewsletters continue to rate above industry standards in open and click through rates. Our area for improvement is adding to our active newsletter emails. Also discussed was a member of the group contacting the Monterey Chamber of Commerce, conduct a presentation on the activities of the working group, and invite attending active businesses to attend and contribute.

Advisory Council Member Discussion:

It was asked if the Friends of the Sanctuary program criteria was available for review yet. The draft criteria will be reviewed by businesses then brought to the AC for review. In addition, the local National Marine Sanctuary Foundation chapter being established will help fund this program.

World Heritage Site Sub-Committee:

The sub-committee is in preliminary stages. They are exploring what questions they want to ask and reaching out to their constituents.

VII. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEM: Management Plan Review Working Group – Wildlife Disturbance - Ocean Noise recommendations

Bart Selby gave a presentation outlining the focus of the working group, what they learned and how they recommend these issues be addressed in the Management Plan Review. The working group reviewed the Ocean Noise Strategy Roadmap, a high-level guide detailing the science used to support Ocean Noise Strategy's goals, NOAA management and science capacities and recommended cross-agency actions to achieve more comprehensive management of noise impacts. The working group also reviewed citizen input, sought expert opinions and met with law enforcement. The working group developed the following recommendations:

1. We recommend increasing research efforts, including CeNCOOS (Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System) monitoring sound as a core variable tracked over time, and work to integrate the project into similar NOAA efforts. We recommend collaboration with and support for the MBARI real time cable hydrophone and adding additional nodes so it can precisely locate sounds.

A motion was made to approve the first recommendation.

MOTION: Rich Hughett, Dan Haifley seconded.

(Vote: 16 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstention)

2. We recommend sound be featured in the Sanctuary's visitors centers- utilizing exhibits, events and outreach programs describing sound in the marine environment that will reveal how sound is used by animals in the ocean and that manmade sound can have impacts.

A motion was made to approve the second recommendation.

MOTION: Deb Wilson-Vandenberg, Brian Nelson seconded.

(Vote: 16 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstention)

3. We recommend Sanctuary staff consult with appropriate agencies and fishing industry representatives to catalog current uses of seal bombs and where applicable encourage continued enforcement by appropriate agencies.

A motion was made to approve the third recommendation.

MOTION: Gary Pezzi, Rich Hughett seconded.

(Vote: 15 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention)

4. We recommend the Sanctuary convene collaborative groups of stakeholders with the goal of developing strategies to both minimize future seal bomb use and developing effective alternatives in the Sanctuary.

A motion was made to approve the fourth recommendation.

MOTION: Rich Hughett, Steve Scheiblaue seconded.

(Vote: 12 in favor, 2 opposed, 2 abstentions)

VIII. INFORMATION ITEM: Recreational Fishing Summit update

Rich Hughett, Recreational Fishing primary member, gave an update on the National Recreational Fishing Summit he attended December of 2016. Prior to meeting, attending members were asked

various questions to discuss during the summit: 1) What is the most important step the ONMS can take to improve our relationship with recreational fishermen? 2) What are the top three issues of concern for recreational fishermen in your sanctuary? 3) What is your rating of potential discussion topics in order of preference for inclusion in the Summit agenda? and 4) What would a successful outcome of the summit be?

During breakout sessions, participants discussed: 1) Identifying common perceptions; 2) Improving communications and engagement; 3) Learning from your experience with national marine sanctuaries; 4) Focusing on management approaches; 5) Focusing on tools for recreational anglers; and 6) Identifying science collaborations. Discussion outcomes included a common perception among recreational fishermen that marine protected areas, including national marine sanctuaries, take away more (i.e., have more restrictions) than they actually give back (i.e., benefits). NOAA needs to improve the dissemination of information, communication and receipt of input from recreational fishermen throughout specific processes including management plans, research and regulatory activities, etc. NOAA and recreational fishermen should explore opportunities to collaborate on science and education projects throughout the national marine sanctuary system. There is broad interest in working together to enhance the recreational fishing experience in national marine sanctuaries.

Commitments by NOAA and recreational fishermen established during the summit will start with ONMS developing and distributing a draft “Action plan” and ONMS and NMFS will coordinate on Cooperative Research Program activities in national marine sanctuaries. The ONMS Director will contact each site superintendent to ensure there is an ongoing dialogue between recreational fishing representative(s) on all management issues or areas of concern as well as identify a Point of Contact (POC) at each site for recreational fishing concerns and the POC will establish contact with NMFS regional recreational fishing coordinators.

Paul Michel then gave an update on how MBNMS staff has moved forward since the summit. He overviewed the draft ONMS Recreational Fishing Action Plan as well as MBNMS implementation. The actions he discussed were: 1) Increase Opportunities for Engaging Rec Fishermen on Advisory Council; 2) Improve Understanding of Sanctuary Management Plan Regulations; 3) Enhance Rec Fishermen Contribution and Understanding of Sanctuary Science; 4) Expand Rec Fishing Programs; 5) Improve Communications with Rec Fishing Communities; and 6) Increase Resources for Rec Fishing Partnerships

Advisory Council Member Discussion

Kathy Fosmark raised concerns regarding Rich’s connection and communication performance with recreational fishermen and she believes the Alliance is the group to interface with since it has recreational fishing representatives. Steve Scheiblaue asked why the priority item of “increasing fishing opportunity” was not listed for potential action by the NMS Program? Both Steve and Kathy also raised concerned that the potential for building better relationships and communications with recreational fishermen is hampered by the “broken promise” issue, with the MBNMS’s role in the California MPA process an example. Superintendent Michel stated that the “promise” was only that the sanctuary would not create its own fishing regulation—which it has not. Steve Scheiblaue recalled, being involved in 1991 and 92 during the negotiation for a sanctuary, that the agreement with fishermen at the time of designation was much broader—that the new sanctuary would not threaten the livelihoods and that they would not have to worry about sanctuary actions. There was discussion about the MBNMS’s leadership role in the California MPA process, and that both recreational and commercial fishers are unhappy with that role. Some council members voiced their opinions on that and need to focus more on

future and positive outcomes that are achievable. Jose Montes, recreational fishing alternate, voiced his support and intention to help. He stated that he looks to Dan Wolford, a leader in the Coastside Fishing Club and former Chair of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC), for guidance on fishing issues. Steve Scheiblauber pointed out to the AC Mr. Wolford, representing California recreational anglers, had made the PFMC motion to oppose the GF and CB NMS expansions.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM