



# Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

## Sanctuary Office Report



Volume 14, Number 6

A REPORT FOR THE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

REPORTING PERIOD: SEPTEMBER 23, 2017 – NOVEMBER 24, 2017

### ABOUT THE SANCTUARY

Designated in 1992, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS or Sanctuary) is a federally protected marine area offshore of California's central coast. Stretching from Marin to Cambria, MBNMS encompasses a shoreline of 276 miles and 6,094 square statute miles of ocean.

Supporting one of the world's most diverse marine ecosystems, it is home to numerous mammals, seabirds, fishes, invertebrates and plants in a remarkably productive coastal environment. MBNMS was established for the purpose of resource protection, research, education and public use of this national treasure.

### NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) AND OFFICE OF NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES (ONMS) NEWS

#### The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries rolls out its five-year strategic plan

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) released "**Our Vision for America's Treasured Ocean Places,**" its five-year plan for advancing the protection of some of the nation's most amazing ocean and Great Lakes places. Part of the success of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act is a result of its requirement to consider the diverse and sometimes competing needs of all of our stakeholders. Laying out an ambitious plan requires a new way of doing business. "Our Vision" was created with input from ONMS staff, cooperating agencies, and diverse stakeholders. This collaborative roadmap will be strategically focused on the National Marine Sanctuary System and its constituents and resources to deliver an empowered, valued, and effective system while ensuring thriving sanctuaries and other ocean parks. As we face increasingly complex threats to conservation, we must improve our coordination and dexterity within NOAA and expand our intergovernmental and

external networks. We will prioritize investments and take steps to empower our people to meet their full potential. For more information: <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/about/five-year-strategy-2017-2022.html>

#### Warm air helped keep 2017 Antarctic ozone hole smallest in 29 years

Warmth in the Antarctic stratosphere helped limit the size of the ozone hole in 2017 to the smallest observed since 1988, NOAA and NASA scientists say. Measurements from NASA satellites showed the hole in the Earth's ozone layer that forms over Antarctica each September grew to only 7.6 million square miles in extent (coverage) before starting to recover this year. The average peak area observed since 1991 has been roughly 10 million square miles. The ozone hole reached its peak extent on Sept. 11, covering an area about two and a half times the size of the United States, and then declined through the remainder of September and into October. NOAA's ground- and balloon-based measurements also found the least amount of ozone depletion since 1988. The two agencies have monitored the ozone hole for the past 25 years. For more information: <http://www.noaa.gov/news/warm-air-helped-keep-2017-antarctic-ozone-hole-smallest-in-29-years>

#### Lift off! JPSS-1 heads to orbit

The Joint Polar Satellite System-1, the first in a new series of four highly advanced NOAA polar-orbiting satellites, lifted off from Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, at 1:47 a.m. PST this morning. The satellite's next-generation technology will help improve the timeliness and accuracy of U.S. weather forecasts three to seven days out. "The value of the new JPSS satellite cannot be understated after this tragic hurricane season," said Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross. "JPSS offers an unparalleled perspective on our planet's weather, granting NOAA advanced insights which will be used to guard American lives and communities." JPSS-1 will be renamed NOAA-20 when it reaches its final orbit. Scientists and forecasters will be able to use the satellite's data officially after its five advanced instruments, all significantly upgraded from those on NOAA's previous polar-orbiting satellites, complete three months of tests. The satellite is designed to operate for seven years, with the potential for several more years. For more information: <http://www.noaa.gov/media-release/lift-off-jpss-1-heads-to-orbit>

## NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS

### **Flower Garden Bank National Marine Sanctuary continues operations after Hurricane Harvey**

Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary and partners completed the first part of a multi-leg Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) expedition to explore mesophotic communities on reefs and banks in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. Collaboration with NOAA's Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program, University of North Carolina Wilmington Undersea Vehicle Program, City University of New York, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, and National Marine Sanctuary Foundation is imperative to conduct this logistic-heavy and time-intensive research. Using the partner-owned and operated MOHAWK ROV, benthic transects from 50 - 200 m depth were conducted to provide information on the number of corals and capture high resolution imagery of the seafloor. The team completed over 20 hours of ROV dive time and collected more than 50 coral samples that will be used for species identifications and genetic analysis. Working with partners not only is efficient use of time, skills and resources it allows others to play a critical role in protecting and promoting access to these special coastal and marine places. For more information: <https://flowergarden.noaa.gov/>

### **Vessel Grounds in sanctuary near popular beach**

On October 10<sup>th</sup>, a 79-foot commercial fishing vessel grounded within Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary on O'ahu about 330 yards off of Kaimana Beach near Waikiki. Besides being a very popular area used by locals and tourists, the beach was recently the site where an endangered monk seal was born and weaned just a couple months ago. Some of the diesel fuel was removed and the vessel was being readied for towing when it caught fire on Saturday, October 14. The U.S. Coast Guard is overseeing the salvage operations by a contractor. NOAA Emergency Response, NOAA Fisheries, and state agencies are providing guidance to minimize impact to natural resources including monk seals. There have been a few reports of humpback whales around O'ahu, though the peak season is typically between January to March. Vessel grounding can have numerous impacts to the marine environment and the sanctuary monitors them in order to ensure protection of humpback whales and their habitat.

### **Farallones Wildlife Cruise Encounters “Oceanful” of Blue Whales**

Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary education staff partnered with the Oceanic Society to provide an opportunity to see the Farallon Islands and look for wildlife on October 21st, 2017. Thirty-nine participants from the Sanctuary Explorations program encountered an abundance of wildlife, with sightings of 35 blue whales and another 30 humpback whales! Many seabirds, including common murre, cormorants, brown pelicans, and two black-footed albatross were spotted. Participants learned about the natural history of whales, pinnipeds and seabirds along with the conservation efforts to protect these amazing species. In addition, they learned about good whale watching practices and etiquette. The Sanctuary Exploration Series provides monthly opportunities for the public to connect with, and experience, our national marine sanctuaries. Building a strong public sanctuary constituency as well as inspiring ocean literacy, conservation ethics and wildlife etiquette through experiential learning are the goals for the series.

### **Necropsy Session of Shearwaters**

NOAA Nancy Foster Scholar Anna Robuck, who is studying contaminants in seabirds in the Gulf of Maine, organized a necropsy session at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on Friday to continue sampling some of the nearly 1,000 bycatch shearwaters that NOAA Fisheries has collected over the past few years. This is the second such session she has led; more are planned for future months. Volunteers came from a number of academic and government institutions, including Peter Hong, Research Technician, and Anne Smrcina, Education Outreach Coordinator, from the sanctuary and NMS Volunteer of the Year Kevin Powers. Kevin and Peter were tasked with collecting physical measurements and taking feather samples. Anne photographed the session, including close-ups to help document the necropsy process. Anna's work may provide data of significance to sanctuary management, not only pertaining to seabirds but regarding ecosystem health. Participation by sanctuary staff and volunteers in this effort furthers this important scientific study and strengthens aspects of NOAA teamwork and cooperation.



## MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS AND PROGRAM UPDATES



### MANAGEMENT

#### **Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Holds Advisory Council Meeting**

On October 20<sup>th</sup>, the MBNMS Advisory Council met and received a series of presentations and updates on the Management Plan Review draft Research and Monitoring Action Plan and a review of the options and implications of beach nourishment workshop presented at the August Advisory Council meeting. Actions taken included: supporting the draft Research and Monitoring Action Plan into the draft Management Plan and encouraging the involvement of the Research Activity Panel in establishing research priorities. The next Advisory Council meeting will be on December 15<sup>th</sup> in Monterey. Sanctuary Advisory Councils are community-based advisory bodies consisting of representatives from various user groups, government agencies and the public at large. The role of the council is to provide advice to the sanctuary superintendent on the designation and/or operation of a national marine sanctuary.

### RESEARCH AND MONITORING

#### **MBNMS Research Activity Panel Meets at Center for Ocean Health**

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) Research Activity Panel (RAP) will meet at the Center for Ocean Health at Long Marine Lab, in Santa Cruz, CA. Agenda items include: California Sea Grant Extension Update: MBNMS and Wider Area Efforts; summary of October Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting; Products to inform management: Marine Biodiversity Observation Network, Condition Report, and Integrated Ecosystem Assessment; Mud Creek Slide (tentative); Ed Ricketts Award and Lecture; and 2018 RAP schedule and hosts. MBNMS Research Activity Panel (RAP) is a working group of the MBNMS Advisory Council. The RAP meets six times per year, and advises SAC and sanctuary staff on basic and conservation science issues. For more information: <http://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/rap/rapma.html>

### RESOURCE PROTECTION

#### **MBNMS Staff take Plankton Monitoring Protocols to Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary**

OCNMS and MBNMS teamed up in Forks, Washington to hold an Ocean Acidification(OA) Teacher Training on September 22,23. In addition to an introduction of a new 5-part OA Curriculum that covers an introduction to NMS and Ocean Acidification, MBNMS Plankton Monitoring Program protocols and methods were introduced to teachers, staff and colleagues during the workshop. There was tremendous enthusiasm from the teachers about what an excellent opportunity plankton viewing can be with their students and as a catalyst to discussing biodiversity and OA as a critical issue in our sanctuaries. The group also learned how to use the pHYTER measuring device that will be used at multiple sites on the west coast for monitoring pH. Olympic Coast is a sentinel site for Ocean Acidification and plankton monitoring in MBNMS and is an important citizen science activity to introduce to a diverse audience as data collected from multiple sites and partners will go into a long-term monitoring dataset for use by educators, scientists and policy makers.

#### **California Leatherback Sea Turtles, a Species in the Spotlight and California's State Marine Reptile were the focus for a stakeholder meeting at MLML and a public event and presentation at the Sanctuary Exploration Center**

NOAA's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (MLML), NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Science Center, The Ocean Foundation collaborated and coordinated two days of events focusing on and highlighting Leatherback Sea Turtles (*Dermodochelys coriacea*), the California State Marine Reptile. Fifty Leatherback stakeholders (scientists, resource protection, fishermen, conservationist, educators and politicians) came together at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories to share the current research and status of

leatherbacks with the goal of forming research, conservation and education collaborations. On the following day, the Sanctuary Exploration Center in Santa Cruz hosted a celebration and an evening MBNMS 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary presentation on Leatherback sea turtles. Both events touched 482 public members. The day's festivities included the following groups tabling and conducting leatherback turtle activities --- MLML, NOAA Fisheries, Save the Whales, Oceania, FishWise, Follow-the-Sun leatherback artwork. In addition, two new short leatherback sea turtle films were premiered and played throughout the day and will now become an addition to the films already played at the SEC. The Leatherback Sea Turtle is an iconic species for the Sanctuary Exploration Center and is highlighted in several exhibits. Leatherback turtles are endangered, with the western Pacific populations that come to Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary down by 96% and the populations that nest in Costa Rica and Mexico extinct. These turtles are identified by NOAA Fisheries as one of eight Species in the Spotlight and like other sea turtle species, leatherbacks face significant threats from entanglement, development, pollution, marine trash and climate change.

### **17-foot Fishing Vessel salvaged at Pacific Grove Marine Gardens State SMCA.**

On Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, a 17ft Glastron fiberglass vessel capsized close to the Pt Pinos buoy marker in the evening hours. US Coast Guard and a good Samaritan responded and rescued 3 passengers and a dog. After the rescue, the vessel was left adrift. The next morning the vessel was reported grounded at Pacific Grove Marine Gardens State SMCA and the vessel owner was informed by MBNMS about his responsibility to remove the wreck, for which he cooperated to the best of his ability. This SMCA is a sensitive nesting and resting area for seabirds, yet luckily this was not the breeding season. The hull being intact and high on the rocks required a land based response. A local salvor was able to provide an estimate for the salvage to the owner who was able to cover most of the costs. The salvage was conducted on October 15, and fortuitously, the wreck had moved into a closer nearshore position, which provided easier access for rigging the hull and pulling it gently off the rocks and to the sand beach. The hull was first flipped over, and the engine and wiring were still connected and the battery and reserve oil container were both intact. The salvor filled the hull with additional vessel debris from the rocky intertidal area and then slowly winched the vessel across about 100 foot of rocky intertidal to beach. Some fiberglass residue was visible on the rocks, yet damage appeared minimal to intertidal resources. All debris on site including the vessel hull, outboard motor and battery were removed intact. MBNMS kept Pacific Grove police, USCG and BLM informed about the response. Vessel groundings they have the capability to damage sanctuary resources and cost the government tax dollars. Resource protection measures include managing a salvage operation to ensure a swift response that follows best practices.

## **EDUCATION, VOLUNTEER AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

### **Volunteers Turn Out to Measure Water Quality for the Dry Run**

During the week of September 11<sup>th</sup>, a volunteer training took place in Monterey to train volunteers to monitor water quality discharging from urban outfalls during the first rain of the season. MBNMS contract staff (funded by local cities and county), trained approximately 15 volunteers who are now on call to mobilize as soon as it begins to rain. On Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, the volunteers met at their respective sites to collect water samples prior to the rains to better understand whether contaminants are present in the runoff during dry weather. In total, 15 outfalls were and will be monitored between Watsonville and Carmel Bay. This will be the 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of this program. This program is valuable to the sanctuary and to local stormwater managers both to understand and better manage the water quality running off urban areas as well as engaging the local residents in environmental protection and stewardship. Because this is the 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of this event, we have a robust data set of knowledge and stormwater programs are using it to prioritize their efforts to improve water quality.

### **Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary joins Monterey Beach Sportsfest in recognition of 25th Anniversary for ocean athletics and community movie night on the beach.**

On Saturday, September 23, MBNMS partnered with Monterey Beach SportsFest for a celebration of “Healthy People, Healthy Oceans,” that brought together a series of ocean focused conservation and educational resources and a variety of athletic competitions, including beach volleyball, distance ocean swims, kayak and outrigger canoe races, and stand up paddleboarding in the sanctuary. There was multiple free outdoor activities ranging from yoga, Zumba to kids sand castle team building and live musical entertainment. Paul Michel, sanctuary superintendent, kicked off the 250-yard community sanctuary swim with participants. During the evening, MBNMS sponsored a free movie night on the beach, screening the film “Disney Nature Oceans” to over 350 community members, in recognition of the sanctuary’s 25th anniversary. Free popcorn and cake were provided to the attendees. Community events like Monterey Beach Sportsfest heighten awareness of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary while engaging the local community in ocean recreational activities.

### **MBNMS Shares Whaling History with Local Community**

Residents and historians attended a presentation on shore whaling in San Simeon Cove last Thursday evening, which mirrored the content of a new outdoor shore whaling exhibit near the Coastal Discovery Center at San Simeon Bay. Funded by NOAA’s Preserve America Initiative grant, the exhibit shows the economic importance of shore whaling in San Simeon Village from 1861-1894 when George Hearst exported goods such as wool, butter, hides and whale oil up to San Francisco. The exhibit also showed how quickly whale populations were depleted during this period, and the conservation efforts taken to bring back many whale species from the brink of extinction. During the presentation given by MBNMS and CA State Parks, Cambrian and San Simeon residents of 85 years shared stories of how they played on the old abandoned whaling wharf, and helped address unanswered questions dug up during the research phase of the project. Fifty attendees from over six docent programs will now be able to share the facts learned from this presentation in their own docent programs, as well as direct visitors to the Coastal Discovery Center to view the new display. Whalebones unearthed by winter storms and a cast iron try pot from the mid-1800s can be seen only yards away from humpback whales feeding during the summer months in San Simeon Bay. NOAA’s Preserve America grant in collaboration with the efforts of the historical restoration team at CA State Parks helped bring together a display which captures the past and present story of man’s relationship with whales in the United States, enriching the cultural landscape of Old San Simeon Village and MBNMS.

### **Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary participates in US Forest Service’s Fall Fish Fest in South Lake Tahoe**

MBNMS participated in the USFS/Lake Tahoe Basin Fall Fish Fest on Saturday, October 7, 2017. The event took place at Taylor Creek Visitor Center in South Lake Tahoe, located approximately 300 miles inland from MBNMS. As part of an emerging partnership between NOAA sanctuaries and US Forest Service, MBNMS was invited to host an outreach table and engage with over 5,000 event attendees to bring awareness of sanctuaries to inland communities and strengthen our messages about the vital connections of land and sea through watersheds, climate, and wildlife. National Marine Sanctuaries and National Forests have many common management approaches, such as supporting natural resource conservation while promoting compatible human activities and both are travel destinations for nature lovers, wildlife viewers, and recreation seekers. As part of our mission to educate about the significance and importance of national marine sanctuaries, MBNMS participates in community events to share messages of ocean awareness, inspiration, and conservation of important sanctuary resources to the public.



**Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary “Sea Below the Surface” Speaker Series**

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary continued its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary speaker series of public presentations on the state of sanctuary resources, while reflecting on 25 years in ocean protection. The “Sea Below the Surface” series features talks by local marine researchers that discuss the status and trends of sanctuary conditions, including key habitat and species status, from each of four different environments found within the sanctuary: estuarine, nearshore, offshore and seamount environments. This month’s series focused on offshore environments of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary with a presentation given by Dr. Bruce Robison, Senior Scientist and Midwater Ecologist from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History in Pacific Grove. One hundred and twenty guests attended the presentation. A goal of MBNMS education and outreach programs is to inform and educate the public on the health of sanctuary ecosystems and to inspire conservation practices. A special recognition for this year’s outreach efforts focuses on celebrating the MBNMS 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in ocean protection.

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## NEWS COVERAGE

[Dan Haifley, Our Ocean Backyard: A daily explorer in our ocean backyard](http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20170923/NEWS/170929914)

<http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20170923/NEWS/170929914>  
Santa Cruz Sentinel-September 23, 2017

[Monterey Beach SportsFest features competition, fun on beach and the bay](http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20170923/SPORTS/170929836)

<http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20170923/SPORTS/170929836>  
Santa Cruz Sentinel-September 23, 2017

[Pier-to-Point Fun Paddle to raise money for ocean rescues](http://www.sanluisobispo.com/news/local/community/cambrian/article175661551.html)

<http://www.sanluisobispo.com/news/local/community/cambrian/article175661551.html>  
The San Luis Obispo Tribune-September 27, 2017

[Full tide fever](http://www.coastalview.com/opinion/full-tide-fever/article_bb76bb60-a492-11e7-8960-ffba848675f3.html)

[http://www.coastalview.com/opinion/full-tide-fever/article\\_bb76bb60-a492-11e7-8960-ffba848675f3.html](http://www.coastalview.com/opinion/full-tide-fever/article_bb76bb60-a492-11e7-8960-ffba848675f3.html)  
CoastalView.com-September 28, 2017

[Carmel man paddles to oppose cruise ships entering Monterey Bay](http://www.ksbw.com/article/carmel-man-paddles-to-oppose-cruise-ships-entering-monterey-bay/12661728)

<http://www.ksbw.com/article/carmel-man-paddles-to-oppose-cruise-ships-entering-monterey-bay/12661728>  
KSBW-September 29, 2017

[The NOAA Marine Debris Program awards \\$1.2 million to 11 projects](http://www.cdrecycler.com/article/noaa-marine-debris-awards-projects/Construction%20&%20Demolition%20Recycling-October%205,%202017)

[http://www.cdrecycler.com/article/noaa-marine-debris-awards-projects/Construction & Demolition Recycling-October 5, 2017](http://www.cdrecycler.com/article/noaa-marine-debris-awards-projects/Construction%20&%20Demolition%20Recycling-October%205,%202017)

[Gary Griggs, Our Ocean Backyard: Young pirates in Santa Cruz](http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20171014/NEWS/171019855)

<http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20171014/NEWS/171019855>  
Santa Cruz Sentinel-October 14, 2017

[Six tons removed from Monterey Bay shores](http://www.tpgonlinedaily.com/six-tons-removed-monterey-bay-shores/)

<http://www.tpgonlinedaily.com/six-tons-removed-monterey-bay-shores/>  
Aptos Times-October 17, 2017

[Dan Haifley, Our Ocean Backyard: Restoring corals in cold waters off Big Sur](http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20171021/NEWS/171029930)

<http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20171021/NEWS/171029930>  
Santa Cruz Sentinel-October 21, 2017

[Moss Landing bridge, pathway project gets \\$7.5 million from state, key link in Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail](http://www.montereyherald.com/article/NF/20171019/NEWS/171019748)

<http://www.montereyherald.com/article/NF/20171019/NEWS/171019748>  
Monterey Herald-October 19, 2017

[Monterey joins the movement against plastic straws](http://www.montereyherald.com/article/NF/20171101/NEWS/171109980)

<http://www.montereyherald.com/article/NF/20171101/NEWS/171109980>  
Monterey Herald-November 1, 2017

[Dan Haifley, Our Ocean Backyard: From marine protections to offshore oil?](http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20171104/NEWS/171109837)

<http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20171104/NEWS/171109837>  
Santa Cruz Sentinel-November 4, 2017

**Web Site** (<https://montereybay.noaa.gov/>)

**Follow MBNMS on Facebook** (<https://www.facebook.com/MBNMS>) and **Twitter** (<https://twitter.com/mbnms>)

*Please take a few moments to peruse the site. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.  
Comments and suggestions can be sent to [andrew.white@noaa.gov](mailto:andrew.white@noaa.gov).*

## **FUN, OCEAN RELATED WEB SITES**

### **Caitlin Seaview Survey**

<http://www.caitlinseaviewsurvey.com>

### **SIMON**

<https://www.sanctuariesimon.org>

### **Seasons in the Sea**

<http://www.seasonsintthesea.com>

### **Waterlust**

<http://www.waterlust.org/about/>

### **Thank You Ocean**

<http://www.thankyouocean.org/>

### **NOAA Online Media Library**

[https://marinelife.noaa.gov/media\\_lib/](https://marinelife.noaa.gov/media_lib/)

### **Oceans Live**

<http://oceanslive.gso.uri.edu/>

### **Office of National Marine Sanctuaries**

<http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/>

### **NOAA Ocean Explorer**

<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/>

### **Encyclopedia of the Sanctuaries**

<http://www.ocean.com/Library/Encyclopedia/>

### **National Data Buoy Center**

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/rmd.shtml>

### **National Ocean Service**

<https://www.nos.noaa.gov/>

### **National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration**

<http://www.noaa.gov/>

### **Your Sanctuary TV**

<http://yoursanctuarytv.org/>

## **MBNMS STAFF**

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## **Learn More About Your Sanctuary**

The Sanctuary Office Report is produced bi-monthly by Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary staff in conjunction with Sanctuary Advisory Council meetings. To learn more about the Sanctuary please visit our web site at: <https://www.montereybay.noaa.gov>.

To learn more about the Sanctuary Advisory Council please visit:  
<https://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/advisory.html>

## **The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries**

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is one of 14 marine protected areas in the National Marine Sanctuary System encompassing more than 150,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington State to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The system includes 13 national marine sanctuaries and the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Visit the ONMS web site at:  
<https://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/>

## **Get involved and stay informed!**

To learn how to get involved in the Sanctuary visit:  
<https://montereybay.noaa.gov/getinvolved/welcome.html>

Sign up for the MBNMS listserv to receive email notices about upcoming Sanctuary events, and public meetings of the Sanctuary Advisory Council and Working Groups:  
<https://montereybay.noaa.gov/intro/elists.html>

## **- Contact Information -**

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