



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Sanctuary Office Report

Volume 17, Number 3



A REPORT FOR THE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

REPORTING PERIOD: APRIL 15, 2020 – JUNE 10, 2020

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 National Weather Service works to improve weather resilience within the Deaf community

An operational shift at the National Weather Service (NWS) is better meeting the needs of the American public, including vulnerable populations, and is building a Weather-Ready Nation. Part of that shift includes learning from communities how agency-generated information was used to stay safe from weather, water, and climate-related hazards during a weather event. One of those events happened in 2010 and for the last decade, two NWS meteorologists with a unique set of skills have been working with the Deaf and hard of hearing community to ensure they are weather-ready. For more information:

<https://www.noaa.gov/education/stories/national-weather-service-works-to-improve-weather-resilience-within-deaf-community>

NOAA teams with United Nations to create locust-tracking application

NOAA's powerful air quality model used to track the movement and deposition of pollution from wildfires, volcanoes and industrial accidents is now being used to help warn communities across Africa and Asia of what have been called the worst locust swarms in a quarter century. Working with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, NOAA has developed a new web application based on NOAA's HYSPLIT dispersion model that FAO is using to issue forecasts and warnings to affected countries about a potentially devastating second wave of locust swarms. FAO forecasts enable local officials to conduct aerial spraying to reduce the impact of desert locusts which can destroy grains, grasses and other greens that are life-sustaining foods for entire regions. "We hope this new tool will help response organizations reduce the devastation that's being wrought by these locust swarms," said Mark Cohen of NOAA's Air Resources Laboratory in College Park, Maryland, who co-led the NOAA effort to develop the application with FAO. For more information:

<https://research.noaa.gov/article/ArtMID/587/ArticleID/2620/NOAA-teams-with-the-United-Nations-to-create-locust-tracking-application>

Expansion proposal for Flower Garden Banks sanctuary released

Building on more than three decades of scientific exploration and public calls for additional protections, NOAA today released a proposal to expand Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary to protect additional important Gulf of Mexico habitat. NOAA is proposing to add 14 additional reefs and banks to the sanctuary that provide essential habitat for recreationally and commercially important fish, as well as habitats for threatened or endangered species including sea turtles, corals, and manta rays. The sanctuary would expand from 56 square miles to 160 square miles. This proposed expansion demonstrates NOAA's consistent support to the National Marine Sanctuary System that was highlighted in the November 2019 designation of the new sanctuary in Mallows Bay on the Potomac River in Maryland. For more information: <https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/expansion-proposal-for-flower-garden-banks-sanctuary-released>

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS

Tagging collaboration on humpback whale calf nursing behavior highlighted in YouTube video

From February 18 to 28 of this year, HIHWNMS Research Coordinator Dr. Marc Lammers worked with Dr. Lars Bejder (Director of the University of Hawaii's Marine Mammal Research Program) and his team to deploy CATS suction-cup video tags on humpback whale calves to study their nursing behavior. In total, 7 tags were successfully deployed, ranging in deployment duration between 2 and >24 hours. A short video was published on YouTube on Sunday, April 19 describing this effort and can be seen here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUcMuUBMYJc>.

HIHWNMS recently purchased a CATS tag with video capability and will be using it for similar, Sanctuary-led research efforts beginning in the 2020/21 field season. Advances the management plan's objective to deepen and enhance understanding of humpback whales and their habitat.

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month article: Japanese Sampans in Hawai'i

Our sanctuaries have been witness to a wide variety of seafarers and vessels from around the world. In celebration of Asian/Pacific American Heritage in Hawai'i, MHP staff contributed an article on Japanese fishing sampans (later called Hawaiian sampans) which operated throughout the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale NMS. Small sailing sampans were first imported to the islands in 1900 from Wakayama prefecture. Over time these vessels were converted to long-range powered fishing vessels by local Japanese shipwrights, opening the commercial tuna fishery for Hawaiian Tuna Packers Ltd. By 1940 there were over 450 sampans in the territory of Hawai'i, making the fishery the island's third largest industry behind sugar and pineapple. However, growing tensions between Japan and America in the 1930s brought increased scrutiny. As Japanese nationals constituted a large part of the fleet, confiscation of fishing sampans began before the start of the war. Many former fishing sampans were used as inshore patrol vessels during World War II. The sampan fishery never returned to previous levels, and today these wooden pre-war relics have vanished. The memory of the Japanese shipwrights and fishermen exists now only as elements of our heritage. Historical photographs and film footage, watercolors of old-time Hawai'i, images on vintage cocktail napkins, and the bones of the historic sampan shipwrecks (both as fishing vessels and naval patrol vessels) that lie beneath the waters of the sanctuary, tell the story.

<https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/news/may20/sampans-of-hawaii.html>

Cruise in FKNMS rescues corals from disease outbreak

May 12-17, 2020, the sixth Florida Reef Tract coral rescue cruise focused on Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary waters in the Tortugas, west of Key West, with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission scientists only. Using the MV Makai as the research platform, mission priorities included 1) the tracking of stony coral tissue loss disease and identification of the current location of the disease front; 2) collection of replicate samples from each species to safeguard against artifacts within the genetic sampling and marker development that could potentially cause sources of error in the genotyping process; and 3) collection of priority coral species. Scientists collected 262 high and medium priority species to meet requirements of the overarching rescue effort necessary to obtain a minimum of 50 unique genotypes of each species. They also confirmed that the disease has not moved beyond the Marquesas region. Numerous safety measures were taken in regard to the COVID-19 pandemic. These included a reduced number of staff, testing of scientists prior to the mission, social distancing while onboard, decontamination of vessel surfaces, dive gear and personal equipment, transport of corals to their long-term holding facility via decontaminated U-HAUL vehicles, and 14-day self-quarantine of scientists after the mission. Facilitating the work of partners is essential while FKNMS staff is unable to conduct fieldwork due to pandemic restrictions. For more information:

<https://myfwc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opdashboard/index.html#/eba7dc2cabc64f60819e6d4b084d94cd>



MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS AND PROGRAM UPDATES



MANAGEMENT

No report during this period.

RESEARCH AND MONITORING

3D Photogrammetry of Submerged Maritime Heritage Site Holds Promise as Useful Characterization Tool

California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) graduate student intern (Ryan Solymar) for Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) recently presented his research on 3D photogrammetry methods using a WWII submerged maritime heritage site within MBNMS as a case study. He, along with other undergraduate students, provided a video presentation at the CSUMB annual Spring Showcase which highlights their ROV-based 3D photogrammetry project on the “Mating Amtracks” (aka Amphibious Tracked vehicles or armored personnel carriers) off Lovers Point, Pacific Grove, CA. This 3D photogrammetry technique holds promise for characterizing other MBNMS wrecks that are beyond SCUBA depths and too shallow for larger ROV/ship platforms. The YouTube video can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VEUnCdHSmVo&t=17s>

Through the discovery, study, protection and promotion of our maritime cultural heritage, national marine sanctuaries and their partners help Americans learn more about our past and teach us about the critical need to be wise stewards of our ocean planet.

RESOURCE PROTECTION

M/V GOING COASTAL sinks in MBNMS approximately 4 miles offshore of Rocky Point

On April 30 at 1745, MBNMS was notified by the US Coast Guard of a 92’ yacht sinking approximately 4 miles off the coast, several miles south of Carmel Bay. Coast Guard was on scene attempting to dewater the vessel and ultimately rescuing the two crew onboard. Cause of the sinking is believed to be a breached hull due to large waves hitting a small boat cradled off the stern. Approximately 1200 gallons of diesel fuel was onboard. A USCG overflight Friday morning revealed no sign of the vessel or any sheen. We are working with the owner’s insurance agent to develop a search and salvage plan. MBNMS regulations prohibit the abandonment of any vessel in the sanctuary. In order to protect sanctuary resources, every attempt will be made to locate the vessel and remove it from the sanctuary.

EDUCATION, VOLUNTEER AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

MBNMS education staff partner with Santa Cruz County Office of Education to launch “Environmental Education” week K-12th grade virtual programs

MBNMS Education staff partnered with the Monterey Bay Environmental Educators (MBEE) working group and the Santa Cruz County Office Of Education to launch grade specific, virtual learning programs for the entire week of April 20-April 24. MBNMS staff were responsible for curating a 4th and 5th grade set of activities (one activity per day). These activities included original activity worksheets structured around ONMS online resources, as well as partner activities. Check out the lineup here: <https://sites.google.com/view/environmental-literacy-for-all/resources/distance-learning?authuser=0>. These resources were distributed to every Santa Cruz County school teacher, and were advertised through the Santa Cruz City Parks and Recreation Department. All schools in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties have closed for the remainder of the school year, and many students will miss-out on pre planned environmental education opportunities. The Sanctuary Exploration Center has had to cancel over 20 planned field trips for Spring 2020. These classes will miss out on an enriching experience in MBNMS. Collaborations such as these can help the larger education community leverage our skills and strengths to offer virtual programs or materials to these students working from home.

MBNMS education staff completed two virtual docent training informational webinar sessions

On April 1 and April 13, Sanctuary Exploration Center Volunteer Coordinator hosted informational webinars for prospective docent trainees. Although the Center is closed, docent recruitment continued and an online virtual training will be offered in lieu of the traditional in-person docent training. This five-week webinar series will take place from April 27-May 25 after which, a secondary in-person training will take place once the Center is able to re-open. Volunteer docents are integral in the essential functions of the Exploration Center. Docents will work towards fulfilling the mission of the Exploration Center by greeting and educating thousands of individuals about MBNMS.

MBNMS Education Staff completes Santa Cruz County Office of Education Teacher Leadership Initiative

In the 2019-2020 school year MBNMS education staff Chelsea Prindle and Emily Pierce participated in a year-long teacher leadership Institute (TLI) held by the Santa Cruz Office of Education. Seventy local K-12th grade teachers and 10 Environmental Education providers built lesson sequences based on Next Generation Science Standards and Education and the Environment Standards. The Sanctuary Exploration Center participated as an environmental education provider and led a group of eight 4th grade teachers, who built their lesson sequences around the Center's Wharf Oceanography field program. In the 2019/2020 school year, six of these schools brought their entire 4th grade cohort to participate in the program. On May 1st, 2020 the TLI held an end of year "summit" where each grade-level group shared the main components of their lesson sequences and lessons learned through the program. Building education programs with teacher influence and support makes sure the program will fit into their regular curriculum and state standards. This process meant that six local schools will be fully supported and funded to attend a field trip to the Sanctuary Exploration Center and complete their lesson sequence. In addition, this process gave Center Education staff the tools to apply a similar process to other Exploration Center programming.

MBNMS staff participated in a Virtual Seminar Featuring Monterey Bay Area Photographer and Author, Marc Shargel.

On May 8 Chelsea Prindle facilitated a virtual seminar featuring Monterey Bay area underwater photographer and author, Marc Shargel. This event was previously planned to take place at the Exploration Center, but due to the shelter-in-place order was revised to be an online presentation. Over 80 registrants and 140 participants from across California learned about MBNMS, the nearshore coastal ecosystems, and SCUBA diving off the California Coast. Topical presentations such as these, increase awareness of the Exploration Center and bring new visitors. Virtual presentations are able to reach an even wider audience and engage new community members.

NEWS COVERAGE

[The 50th Earth Day comes full circle-with a remembrance of the area's first recycling center in Carmel](http://www.montereycountyweekly.com/blogs/news_blog/the-50th-earth-day-comes-full-circle-with-a-remembrance-of-the-area-s-first/article_46e4a700-81bf-11ea-be94-5bf51ac24e7d.html)

http://www.montereycountyweekly.com/blogs/news_blog/the-50th-earth-day-comes-full-circle-with-a-remembrance-of-the-area-s-first/article_46e4a700-81bf-11ea-be94-5bf51ac24e7d.html

Monterey County Weekly – April 21, 2020

[Ross Clark, Earth Matters – The virtual bay](https://www.santacruzsentinel.com/2020/05/02/ross-clark-earth-matters-the-virtual-bay/)

<https://www.santacruzsentinel.com/2020/05/02/ross-clark-earth-matters-the-virtual-bay/>

Santa Cruz Sentinel – May 2, 2020

[Coast Lines – Exploration Center offers virtual opportunities](https://www.santacruzsentinel.com/2020/05/06/coast-lines-exploration-center-offers-virtual-opportunities/)

<https://www.santacruzsentinel.com/2020/05/06/coast-lines-exploration-center-offers-virtual-opportunities/>

Santa Cruz Sentinel – May 6, 2020

[Santa Cruz Surfer Loses Life In Shark Incident](https://www.worldsurfleague.com/posts/451671/santa-cruz-surfer-loses-life-in-shark-incident)

<https://www.worldsurfleague.com/posts/451671/santa-cruz-surfer-loses-life-in-shark-incident>

World Surf League – May 10, 2020

[How Conservation Photographers Use Images to Save Our Living World](https://goodtimes.sc/cover-stories/how-conservation-photographers-use-images-to-save-our-living-world/)

<https://goodtimes.sc/cover-stories/how-conservation-photographers-use-images-to-save-our-living-world/>

Good Times – May 12, 2020

[Cutting loose a humpback](https://www.montereyherald.com/2020/05/20/cutting-loose-a-humpback/)

<https://www.montereyherald.com/2020/05/20/cutting-loose-a-humpback/>

Monterey Herald – May 20, 2020

[Santa Cruz surfing spot is also unique ecotourism destination](https://www.santacruzsentinel.com/2020/05/30/santa-cruz-surfing-spot-is-also-unique-ecotourism-destination/)

<https://www.santacruzsentinel.com/2020/05/30/santa-cruz-surfing-spot-is-also-unique-ecotourism-destination/>

Santa Cruz Sentinel – May 30, 2020

[Local Cruising Destinations: Moss Landing Harbor](https://blog.sfgate.com/latitude38/2020/06/02/local-cruising-destinations-moss-landing-harbor/)

<https://blog.sfgate.com/latitude38/2020/06/02/local-cruising-destinations-moss-landing-harbor/>

SFGate – June 2, 2020

[Transcript: Leon Panetta: Worthy Fights](https://www.nbcnews.com/podcast/the-oath/transcript-leon-panetta-worthy-fights-n1224216)

<https://www.nbcnews.com/podcast/the-oath/transcript-leon-panetta-worthy-fights-n1224216>

NBC News – June 3, 2020

[King City fourth graders share thoughts about protecting sea life](https://kingcityrustler.com/king-city-fourth-graders-share-thoughts-about-protecting-sea-life/)

<https://kingcityrustler.com/king-city-fourth-graders-share-thoughts-about-protecting-sea-life/>

King City Rustler – June 6, 2020

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

★★ **Check out these MBNMS Advisory Council webpage links!** ★★

Advisory Council Meeting Agendas & Minutes

<https://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/sacma.html>

Advisory Council Actions and Results

<https://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/sacact.html>

Advisory Council User Group Newsletters (seats and working groups/sub-committees)

<https://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/advisory-nwsltr.html>

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.

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

FUN, OCEAN RELATED WEB SITES

NOS Ocean Facts: Ocean Life

<https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/factspage.php?siteName=oceanfacts&cat=Ocean%20Life>

Caitlin Seaview Survey

<http://www.catlinseaviewsurvey.com>

SIMON

<https://www.sanctuarysimon.org>

Seasons in the Sea

<http://www.seasonsintthesea.com>

Thank You Ocean

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

Oceans Live

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

NOAA Ocean Explorer

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

Encyclopedia of the Sanctuaries

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

MBNMS STAFF

Paul Michel – Superintendent
Dawn Hayes – Deputy Superintendent

Research

Andrew DeVogelaere – Research Coordinator
Jennifer Brown – SIMoN Ecosystem Scientist
Erica Burton – Research Specialist
Chad King – SIMoN Data Analyst
Steve Lonhart – SIMoN Senior Scientist

Education

Amity Wood – Education and Outreach Coordinator
Acy Wood – Volunteer Coordinator (SEC)
Nick Ingram – Exhibits/Facility Specialist (SEC)
Emily Pierce – Program Assistant (SEC)
Chelsea Prindle – SEC Manager
Michele Roest – Program Coordinator & Community Liaison
Lisa Uttal – Education Specialist

Resource Protection

Karen Grimmer – Resource Protection Coordinator
Sophie De Beukelaer – GIS Analyst & Research Permit Coordinator
Lisa Emanuelson – Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network Coordinator
Bridget Hoover – Water Quality Protection Program Director
Scott Kathey – Regulatory/Emergency Response Coordinator (on detail to GRNMS)
Pamela Krone – Agriculture Water Quality Coordinator

Program Operations

Raymond Chisolm – Program Specialist
Nichole Rodriguez – Advisory Council Coordinator
Andrew White – Network Manager and Webmaster



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 -

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

99 Pacific Street, 455A
Monterey, CA 93940
Phone (831) 647-4201
Fax (831) 647-4250