

SAVE Spectacular

Celebrating 50 Years of National Marine Sanctuaries

MBNMS Advisory Council meeting
April 15, 2022

Lisa Wooninck, Superintendent

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary



What's New



MBNMS featured in Netflix series: Our Great National Parks

- Narrated by President Barack Obama - only ocean park



Hosting COAST intern (10 weeks)

- To develop an Indigenous Community Engagement Strategy

2021 Accomplishments report

- Posted on the MBNMS website/materials and resources/reports



MBNMS Core Operations



COVID-19

- 30-day return to office orders given
- Slow reintegration April 25 - March 9
- New office schedules - more tolerance for telework

Staff recruitment

- Coordinator position recruitment underway!
- Volunteer Coordinator/Education Specialist (SEC)
- Operations/Maintenance Specialist (SEC)

MBNMS Budget

- Funding to support operations at SEC/CDC and emergency response, in addition to

MBNMS Core Operations



Staff increase emergency preparedness

- Basic Life Support classes for staff
- Dr. Steve Lonhart instructed

MB Advisory Council Vessel Incident subcommittee

- Subcommittee met April 11
- Gary Hoffman elected Chair
- Planning joint meeting w/ GFNMS subcommittee late April/ early May





Tanker Reef spring surveys with CDFW

- 50% of control site was surveyed in March,
- remaining dives (control and the grid) being rescheduled

CeNCOOS and Marine Biodiversity Observation Network

- Coordinating to better share indicators of ecosystem status and trends in near real time on the web to various audiences - including scientists and classrooms.

MBNMS Research



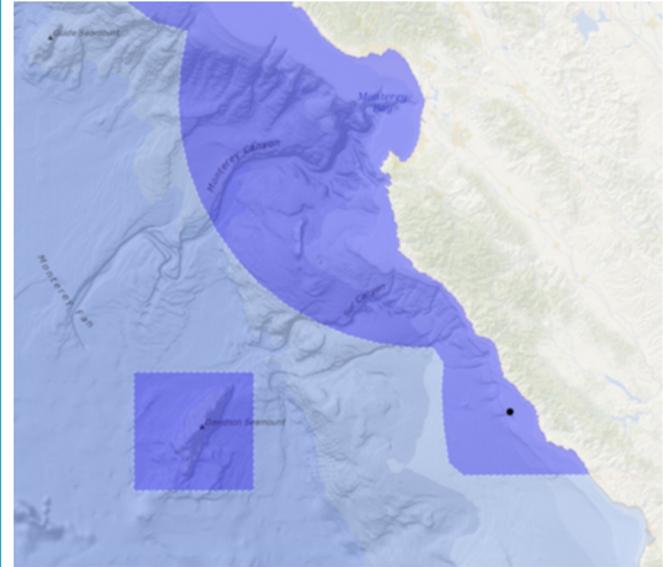
Sound mooring at SESA to characterize:

- La Cruz Canyon area
- Soundscape in an area of active wind farm consideration
- Proposed CHNMS designation
- Blue whale visitation

MBARI expedition

- ROV surveys at Davidson Seamount and Sur Ridge
 - “Octopus Garden” (3200 m) time-lapse camera
 - Experimental respiration chambers for eggs
 - Sur Ridge - DSC observatory
 - BBC acquired additional octopus footage about the octopus garden

New mooring for passive acoustic monitoring at La Cruz Canyon (SESA #15)



The new mooring location, at 35°46' N, 121°26' W, is indicated by the solid black circle in the map; water depth is 105 m.

MBNMS Education



12th annual Whalefest Monterey 2022

- March 19-20 at the Custom House Plaza/ Old Fisherman's Wharf
- Exhibitors, kids' activities, live music and Science Symposium
- Promoted ONMS 50th and MBNMS 30th



Visitor Center Reopening Planning

- Building staff and volunteer capacities to reopen visitor centers
- Testing and upgrading exhibit systems
- New online docent training program



Upcoming public events: Save the Dates!

- Saturday, July 9: GIYS event with Shared Adventures
 - Cowell Beach
 - Focus on individuals with varied abilities
 - SAC members Jose and Adam to assist w/ rec fishing activity!
- Friday, August 5: SEC hosts USPS “Day of Issuance” Ceremony
 - unveiling of new NMSS themed stamps
- Sunday, Sept 18: Sanctuary Fest on the Santa Cruz Wharf
 - (details coming soon)



New Exhibit Completed

- Mobile exhibit “Sounds in the Sanctuary”
- Partnered with MBARI to develop
- Installed at CDC in San Simeon
- Similar models in development for OCNMS and Hopkins Marine Station (Goldbogen Lab)

MBNMS Resource Protection



Emergency Responses in March/April

- 26 ft Sailing vessel adrift/sank off Natural Bridges State Beach;
- 19 ft power vessel capsized off Moss Landing;
- Foamy surfactant released into Monterey harbor

Spike in Whale Entanglements

- Whale entanglements spiked in March/April with 4 humpbacks and 1 gray whale; CDFW closed commercial Dungeness crab fishery for all zones by April 20

Special Emphasis Enforcement Patrols: April 2 - 3

- NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, CDFW, US Coast Guard and harbor patrols focused on MBNMS and GFNMS with approximately 30 personnel.

MBNMS Resource Protection



Upcoming ACCESS cruise

- May 2-12, 2022 and covers transects in Monterey Bay up to San Mateo Coast; MBNMS RP staff and Point Blue staff are science crew

Bay Net and Team OCEAN programs

- Bay Net will continue with existing volunteers and sanctuary oversight; Team OCEAN will pause this year while we restructure and search for a stable funding source in partnership with CMSF;

CBNMS/GFNMS Superintendent's Report

Brian Johnson, Deputy Superintendent



Conservation Science

- CBNMS contributes to a West Coast Deep Sea Coral and Sponge Guide
- Science staff prepare for 2022 ACCESS season
- Science staff service Hypoxia monitoring mooring with Bodega Marine Lab
- Condition Report workshops



Photo: R. Pound/CBNMS

University of California at Davis Bodega Marine Lab technician deploying the hypoxia mooring in CBNMS.

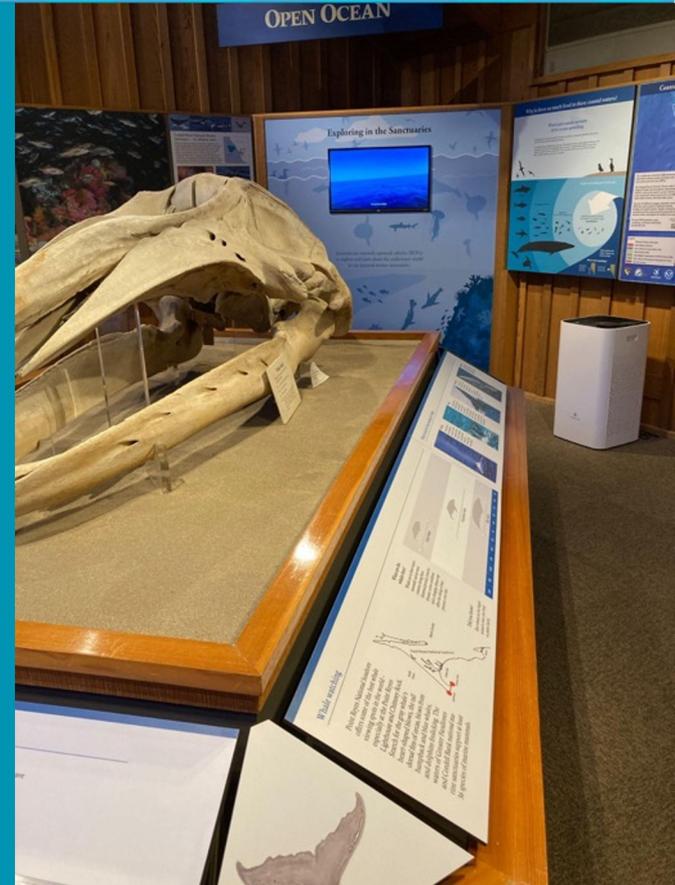
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Education and Outreach

- CBNMS/GFNMS featured in updated exhibits at Point Reyes National Seashore
- Ocean Science Education and Outreach careers highlighted at UC Davis Career Symposium
- 50 Programs in 50 States Project
- Virtual and in-person teaching continues



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Resource Protection

- Whale Ship Strike Update
- GFA received \$2M earmark for kelp restoration
- *American Challenger* salvage planning



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Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary



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