



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Sanctuary Council Diver Announcement

Diver
December 2015

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Dear MBNMS,

Happy Holidays fellow divers, There has been quite a bit going on in the management plan review. Thanks to everyone that took some time in sharing their thoughts about mooring balls for common dive sights and artificial reefs, the Sanctuary Management staff is now discussing these two topics knowing how important they are to the diving community.

We had the opportunity to see the documentary *Sand Wars*. It certainly was an eye opener. We realized the sand plant in Marina is the last coastal sand plant in the United States. The loss of the sand from the southern portions of Monterey Bay has affected our beaches and nearby protected dune areas. We hope you have the opportunity to see this informative documentary to at least have a better understanding globally what is happening to near shore sand.

As always please feel free to contact Phil or I if you would like a MBNMS presentation at your dive club or store, also please share this newsletter with other divers and help build our communication connections.

Happy Holidays, Brian and Phil

Three new shipwreck discoveries
in Greater Farallones National
Marine Sanctuary

Japan Blocks 4 out of 5 Shark Conservation Proposals at Atlantic Tuna Meeting



Fishing nations at the annual meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) have once again failed to adopt scientific advice and best practices to safeguard several species of oceanic sharks.

The number of co-sponsors in an ongoing effort to strengthen the ICCAT ban on "finning" (slicing off a shark's fins and discarding the body at sea) more than doubled to an unprecedented 30 of 50 Parties, yet was quashed by Japan with support from Korea, and China. Japan also led the fight to kill EU proposals aimed at protecting common thresher and limiting catch of makos, while its attempt to raise proposed blue shark catch levels prevented consensus on that measure. The only shark measure agreed was a compromise between Canada and the EU aimed at conserving porbeagle sharks. "We are deeply troubled that sound conservation proposals for exceptionally vulnerable sharks continue to be defeated at ICCAT, even as mandates, warnings, and public concerns grow stronger," said Sonja Fordham, President of Shark Advocates International, a project of The Ocean Foundation. [READ MORE](#)

**13th Annual San
Francisco International
Ocean Film Festival
March 10 - 13, 2016
Cowell Theater, Fort
Mason Center**



During an 8-day maritime heritage expedition on board the R/V Fulmar in Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, three new shipwrecks were discovered. The major discovery was the steam trawler Ituna lost 95 years ago. At 170 feet in length, it was the largest steam trawler fishing out of San Francisco and one of the first to utilize the Otter trawl system in the Pacific. Ituna was built in Glasgow, Scotland in 1886 as a luxury steam yacht and designed by George Lennox Watson, a famous yacht designer in Scotland. The yacht went on to serve as an expedition ship during some of the earliest archaeological field studies in the Yucatan, Chiapas, and Oaxaca. Before being transformed into a steam trawler, Ituna was converted to a first-class passenger-cargo steamer running between Mexican and U.S. Pacific ports for the Mexican Navigation and Commercial Company. On March 13, 1920, while under ownership of the Frank E. Booth Company, the 34-year old trawler Ituna was en route from San Francisco to Reedsport, Oregon when a gale hit and spit its seams. While 12 of its 14 crewmen escaped, two went down with the vessel when it sank in a matter of minutes. The shipwreck was found sitting upright on the seafloor and was easily identified by its iron clipper bow and ecliptic stern rising off the seafloor. Two additional discoveries included a 167 foot fuel barge and a commercial fishing trawler lost in more recent years. The science team also conducted remotely operated vehicle (ROV) and autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) surveys on shipwrecks discovered during the phase one expedition in September 2014. The objective of the maritime heritage R/V Fulmar ROV-AUV phase II survey was to conduct an archaeological site characterization of maritime heritage resources, including ship and aircraft wrecks in Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. James Delgado and Robert Schwemmer served as Co-principal investigators working with staff from GFNMS, CBNMS, west coast region office, federal and state partners, and volunteers, in partnership with Teledyne SeaBotix, Inc. Teledyne provided a pilot to operate the SeaBotix ROV and an AUV to collect high definition video footage, still images and side scan sonar data for analysis. The mission is to support Maritime Heritage Program's Maritime Cultural Landscape initiative through targeted research on West Coast sites, in particular, Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the newly expanded region that extends north of Point Arena, California. NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries collaborated with federal and state agencies, as well as the private sector for this mission to document resources and to create opportunities to locate and record submerged archaeological resources. These studies provide a foundation for an inventory and enhanced public awareness about the historic resources located in Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary

The Earth is Blue



The 13th Annual San Francisco International Ocean Film Festival is proud to be the premier ocean film destination event of the year. Widely recognized as the main film event for ocean-related independent films, the SFIOFF offers a thoughtfully curated selection of diverse films that capture the beauty, power and mysteries of the ocean. Each year, the SFIOFF presents over 45 films from all over the world, and provides audiences with the opportunity to discuss current ocean events.

authored by Phil and Brian

NOAA's Climate Change Strategy

NOAA's new Climate Science Strategy aims to reduce effects of climate change on fisheries and living marine resources. Forecasters at NOAA's Climate Prediction Center issued the U.S. Winter Outlook today favoring cooler and wetter weather in Southern Tier states with above-average temperatures most likely in the West and across the Northern Tier. This year's El Niño, among the strongest on record, is expected to influence weather and climate patterns this winter by impacting the position of the Pacific jet stream. "A strong El Niño is in place and should exert a strong influence over our weather this winter," said Mike Halpert, deputy director, NOAA's Climate Prediction Center. "While temperature and precipitation impacts associated with El Niño are favored, El Niño is not the only player. Cold-air outbreaks and snow storms will likely occur at times this winter. However, the frequency, number and intensity of these events cannot be predicted on a seasonal



As National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Administrator Dr. Kathryn Sullivan says, "No matter what you see out your living room window or off of your back porch, you are first and foremost a citizen of the planet - and a citizen of an ocean planet." With that in mind, a year ago today we launched #EarthIsBlue to bring you incredible images and videos of America's underwater treasures. Watch our video to learn why we've been sharing these images and how you can help us keep this blue planet vibrant!



The Nature Conservancy and its partners are literally nursing coral reefs back to health in an attempt to restore this vital marine habitat.



BEAUTY AND BRAWN: CORAL REEFS HAVE IT ALL

To the long list of benefits that coral reefs provide to the world - from fisheries production to sheer beauty - add coastal protection from ocean waves. Conservancy scientists recently contributed to a new study in Nature Communications that shows that intact coral reefs reduce wave energy by 97 percent and wave height by 84 percent. What does this mean? It means we have at least 100 million more reasons to protect and restore coral reefs. About 100 million people live within less than 10 kilometers from a coral reef and less than 10 meters above

timescale." [Click here for more information from NOAA](#)

SIMoN Staff Successfully Survey Kelp Forest Sites in Big Sur Using the R/V FULMAR

From October 20 to 22, SIMoN staff and UC Santa Cruz research divers completed surveys at six sites as part of the Big Sur Nearshore Characterization (BSNC) project using the R/V FULMAR. The 3-day trip allowed divers to survey areas within the 70-mile stretch of coastline actively managed for landslides by CalTrans. Bottom time for six divers totaled over 37 hours across 50 dives. This project builds upon marine resources surveys initially conducted from 2003 to 2005 as part of the Coast Highway Management Plan (CHMP) for Highway 1 in Big Sur.

Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) Mooring Field Monitoring Ends for 2015



September 20th was the final day for ASBS monitoring in the mooring field at Stillwater Cove in Pebble Beach. Summertime mooring field monitoring has been conducted in 2014 and 2015 to determine if any pollutants are entering the Stillwater Cove and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary from boats moored in the cove. Monitoring was conducted on the Sunday or Monday of busy boating weekends at Stillwater Cove. Samples were collected for analysis of bacteria, oils, grease, chlorine, ammonia, copper and zinc. ASBS monitoring over the past two years has included storm and receiving water monitoring, reference site monitoring and mooring field monitoring. Determining sources of pollutants entering the ocean and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is the first step in prevention. Mooring field monitoring as well as other monitoring for the ASBS program further informs the determination of natural water quality as well as identifying sources of pollutants.

Chamber Fund Raising

Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary has become a premier diving destination, offering some of the most beautiful and pristine diving

sea level. They receive substantial benefits from the reefs - not the least of which is reducing risks from strong waves and storms.

The Conservancy has a long history of successful coral restoration, from the Florida Keys to the Coral Triangle. In Hawaii, we've partnered with NOAA on what we think is one of the most unusual, innovative and effective coral restoration projects in the world.

Sand Wars - Cemex Sand Plant



On November 4th, MBNMS co-hosted an event with the International Ocean Film Festival, and Surfrider at the Middlebury Institute in Monterey to screen the award winning film documentary - "Sand Wars." The event

attracted over 200 people who enjoyed a wine and cheese reception, and a screening of the 55-minute film followed by an hour-long panel discussion. Local experts on the panel included Dr Gary Griggs, UC Santa Cruz, Dr Jason Scorse, MIIS, Dr Ed Thornton, NPS retired and they explored the issues surrounding the widely unknown practice of sand mining, it's impact on the environment, and its consequences both locally and globally on neighboring populations. The session was moderated by Bob Battalio with CA Shore and Beach Preservation Association, and the audience was very engaged with many questions for the panel regarding the local sand mining operation and issues of sediment transport in Central California. Community events can promote dialogue on local environmental issues such as coastal erosion. [Green Planet Films](#)

MBNMS SAC STAFF

CONNECT WITH YOUR SANCTUARY

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council is your voice to the Sanctuary Management Staff.

If you have questions or input please contact your local representative

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areas in the country. The City of Pacific Grove, on the Monterey Peninsula, has provided medical treatment to injured divers with its hyperbaric chamber since 1963. While the City of Pacific Grove provides for many of the chamber's operation needs, the diver donations support the continued ongoing operations that offset needed repairs that occur from time to time. Please consider a donation to help this much needed, important resource for the local dive community.

[Donate to the Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber Fund](#)



[Donate Now!](#)

Donations the chamber can be made online using a credit card or a PayPal account. The credit card transaction will be securely handled by PayPal and you do not need a PayPal account to make a credit card donation. At the end of the credit card transaction you will be presented with an option to print out a receipt for your donation.

Your tax-deductible donation to the Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber Fund will go directly towards the reopening of the facility and its operations.

Payment can also be made by check mailed to:

Monterey Bay Sanctuary
Foundation
99 Pacific Street, Suite
455 E
Monterey, CA 93940

If you have any questions, please email

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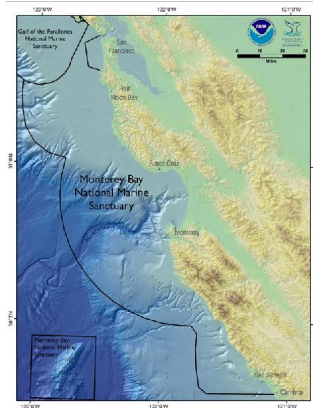
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There are additional non-voting and supporting members of the Advisory Council. Go to [Advisory Council Complete listing and Information](#).

Join Our Mailing List!

Know your Sanctuary

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) is a Federally protected marine area offshore of California's central coast. Stretching from Marin to Cambria, the MBNMS encompasses a shoreline **length of 276 miles and 6,094** square 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. MBNMS is part of a system of 13 National Marine Sanctuaries and one marine national monument, administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

LINKS

Quick Links

[Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary](#)

[Advisory Council Web Page](#)

[Marine Mammal Center - Moss Landing](#)

2016 SAC Meeting Schedule

The 2016 SAC meeting schedule is not yet published on the MBNMS website. The last 2015 SAC meeting will be held on Friday, December 11 at Heritage Harbor in Monterey.

[Council Meeting Agendas](#)

[Council Meeting Minutes](#)

Sincerely,

Brian and Phil

MBNMS Advisory Council
Monterey Bay NMS Advisory Council

Monterey Bay NMS Advisory Council, 99 Pacific Street, Suite 455a, Monterey, CA 93940

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