



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Sanctuary Council Diver Newsletter

Diver
June 2016

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Dear MBNMS,

The Management Plan Review continues. In the last issue we addressed the plan process and we have successfully come through, the Artificial Reef is in the top ten Management Plan items.

We are now at the stage of working with staff directly in planning out the remaining obstacles. One of the obstacles is the State of California. California does not have a process in place for reefing ships within state waters. There is a plan, it only addresses habitat mitigation and fisheries recovery type activities that mimic to the maximum extent practicable the natural habitat in which they are placed. Unlike San Diego, their wrecks are beyond three miles while ours would be inside this boundary. The effort will begin with approaching the State and figure out how to manage this permitting process, with no permitting process in place. Sanctuary Staff is also looking at the other reefing projects around the country and will be working with council on the questions about permitting. Yes, we are guardedly optimistic and both of us are in this for the long "paperwork" haul. We ask for your continued support by thanking the Sanctuary Staff for their willingness to work with the dive constituency and local communities on this important and beneficial project.

Part of the councils responsibility is to decide how best to address each prioritized projects. In the case of the artificial reef project, the workshop will be a Sanctuary Staff Organized Workshop. The paperwork process at the Sanctuary level will need to follow the progress the State

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Get Into Your Sanctuary



On June 25th and 26th, NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is hosting its second National "Get Into Your Sanctuary" celebration. This system-wide event will raise awareness about the value of our sanctuaries as

iconic destinations for responsible recreation through a series of special activities open to the public.

**** Call to Action for Monterey Divers ****
Below you will note a photo contest for the Get Into Your Sanctuary Event. We have the best Underwater Photographers in the World on the Central Coast. Please consider submitting your best photos for consideration
(Thank you Phil and Brian)

ONMS will also hold a [photo contest](#) to provide audiences an opportunity to share their sanctuary experiences. This is a great occasion to showcase our partner organizations that bring people to safely and sustainably watch wildlife and help visitors dive, surf, fish, snorkel, paddle, swim, photograph and enjoy the sea breezes of our nation's most special Great Lakes and ocean places!

can make on the same topic. So more to come on this issue.

Please take a moment and check out the newsletter. There are many interesting events and projects going on. Especially note the "Get Into Your Sanctuary" photo event. We would hope that Monterey's elite underwater photographers can populate many of these categories with fantastic photos.

As always please feel free to contact Phil or myself 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. Think good thoughts as Phil and I continue to work on the Sanctuary Management Plan for the diving community.

Brian and Phil

Prepared by Brian and Phil, Sanctuary Advisory Council Diving Representatives

Dive Virtually with the Okeanos Explorer in the Marianas



Follow along with NOAA, from April 20th to July 10th, as our scientists and partners conduct the Deepwater Exploration of the Marianas expedition on the NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer.



The deepsea trek is being conducted to collect critical baseline information of unknown and poorly known areas in and around the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The live video feed is available to anyone online, giving the public with a front row seat to exploration activities and discoveries as they are made in real time. This unique expedition provides extensive opportunities for the public to connect to the mission. [DIVE VIRTUALLY](#)

NOAA Ship Rainier finds dramatic seascapes and methane plumes while

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

GET INTO YOUR SANCTUARY DAY

Photo Credit: Jamie Metzger

Saturday, June 25th, 10am-5pm

Sanctuary Exploration Center
35 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz CA

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary invites you to take part in "Get Into Your Sanctuary" event at the Exploration Center. Local surf, kayak and other recreational and tourism businesses will be on hand to educate you about ways to get in and enjoy the sanctuary. Throughout the day there will be a variety of activities for you and your family — take part in a SCUBA dress up, a kayak demo or see what it feels like to stand on a surfboard.

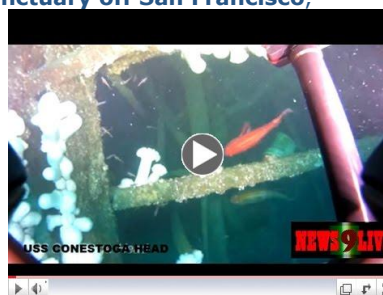
Nautilus Research Expedition will be streamed to the center live from 11:30-1:30pm!
Sanctuaries are partnering with the Ocean Exploration Trust (OET) to stream the RV Nautilus research expedition from the deep waters of Monterey Bay. There will be a presentation from a sanctuary scientist and then we will tune in to a live stream from the Research Vessel Nautilus where we can have a two-way discussion with scientists.

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

Family members of those lost to USS Conestoga wreck write of gratitude, sadness



They were just sailors: 56 young men from all corners of the country, from all backgrounds and faiths. And when their ship, the USS Conestoga, sank on its way from California to Pearl Harbor in 1921, they left behind families they would never see again. Earlier this year, when NOAA and the U.S. Navy announced they had found the wreck of Conestoga, **buried in the silt and sediment at the bottom of NOAA's Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary off San Francisco,**



exploring Quinault Canyon in Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary



A team of experts from the College of Charleston, University of Washington, and Oregon State University contributed to the NOAA-led, multi-disciplinary survey of Quinault Canyon in Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary. The survey gathered data for a host of research projects and ocean management activities. The survey collected swath bathymetry, acoustic backscatter and water column data, revealing rocky outcrops along the canyon rim and a remarkable number of methane plumes throughout the water column. The Rainier survey sets the stage for future ground-truthing surveys by Remote Operation Vehicles (ROV) that will further investigate the release of methane at different depths and the presence of biogenic habitats on the previously unmapped ridges of the deep canyon. The Quinault Canyon is one of the most significant geological features of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary and Washington outer coast. NOAA Ship Rainier has provided the foundation data for further exploration of the canyon seafloor and water column. The survey brought to light unknown information about the unexplored canyon for further research and monitoring.

MBNMS & Coast Guard Inspect M/V CELEBRITY INFINITY



On Friday, May 13th, MBNMS and Coast Guard personnel conducted an inspection boarding of the cruise ship CELEBRITY INFINITY during its port call to Monterey Harbor. The boarding was conducted to inspect ship waste stream logs and engine spaces for verification of compliance with MBNMS prohibitions against cruise ship discharges within the sanctuary. No discrepancies were found. MBNMS has for several years conducted annual random inspections of cruise ships visiting Monterey with the assistance of trained Coast Guard inspection teams and has discovered no evidence of discharge violations within the sanctuary. Thus regulatory compliance by visiting cruise ships appears to be very high.

news spread around the world. Since then, relatives of some of the Conestoga's crew have contacted NOAA, and their letters often reveal a sense of relief at finding out what happened to their long lost relative, tears for their losses - and how those losses affected others. [MORE](#)

Sailing Vessel KENTUCKY WOMAN Adrift in MBNMS



On April 25th, the Coast Guard airlifted the sole crew member from the 41-ft sailing vessel KENTUCKY WOMAN after gale-force winds damaged the vessel's mast, sheets, and rigging. The vessel was left adrift about 30 nm west of Point Ano Nuevo. Coast Guard drift modeling indicated the vessel would likely enter MBNMS. MBNMS enlisted the support of USCG Air Station San Francisco, USCG Air Station Sacramento, the USCG Air Auxiliary Squadron, and a volunteer airman to relocate the vessel to facilitate salvage before it sank or ran aground within MBNMS. NOAA OR&R provided an updated drift projection model on April 28 to aid the search. To date, the vessel has not been found. NOAA OLE is taking action to inform the owner of his liabilities under the NMSA. This incident highlights the multi-agency and volunteer coordination necessary to address marine casualty events in MBNMS. But it also highlights a pressing need for emergency placement of a robust, low-cost, portable beacon aboard stricken vessels to enable quick salvage after search and rescue operations terminate. Rapid securing of vessels adrift is critical to prevent their unnecessary destruction and release of entanglement, chemical, and structural hazards within the sanctuary. A low-cost beacon would save thousands of dollars of flight time and administrative effort to search for and locate a drifting vessel. [Video of Rescue](#)

Support California's Marine Protected Areas



In 2012, California became an international leader in ocean protection by completing the nation's first statewide network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to ensure healthy, vibrant ocean life for

generations to come.

MPAs create safe havens for marine wildlife to reproduce, grow and replenish adjacent areas, leading to stronger and more resilient marine ecosystems overall. These areas have been called "hope spots" because they are our best hope in restoring the beauty and bounty of ocean life threatened by over fishing, pollution, ocean acidification, and habitat destruction.

And MPAs are working! Check out the [10 year summary](#) of how our local MPAs are proving to be a success. [MORE](#)

MBNMS SAC REPRESENTATIVES Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Exploration Center

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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Recreational Fishing



Twenty years after its designation as one of the nation's largest marine sanctuaries, a new state-of-the-art visitor center opened July 23rd, 2012. This Center highlights the spectacular Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Overlooking the ocean, the Sanctuary Exploration Center is located in the heart of the Santa Cruz's famed beach area just steps away from the city's Municipal Wharf. The center features engaging interactive and multi-media exhibits to help visitors explore the sanctuary's remarkable marine environment, as well as their personal role in protecting this special underwater treasure.

Chamber Fund Rasing

Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber
Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary has become a premier diving destination, offering some of the most beautiful and pristine diving 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 for 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:

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

2016 SAC Meeting Schedule

The 2016 SAC meeting schedule

June 17 - Monterey
 August 19 - Moss Landing
 October 21 - Cambria
 December 8 - Monterey

For more information go to [2016 Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting dates and Information](#)

Sincerely,

Brian and Phil

MBNMS Advisory Council
 Monterey Bay NMS Advisory Council

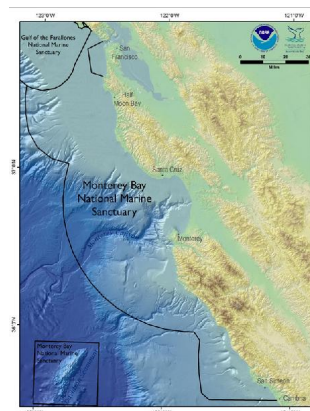
Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation
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 Monterey, CA 93940

If you have any questions, please email
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Prepared by Brian and Phil, Sanctuary Advisory Council Diving Representatives

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](#)

[Council Meeting Agendas](#)

[Council Meeting Minutes](#)



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