Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Research Activity Panel Meeting Minutes

Applied Sciences Building, UCSC, Room 330
Santa Cruz, California

Friday, January 13, 1995 - 1300 to 1730 hrs

Minutes taken and transcribed by:
Aaron King, Monterey Bay NMS - RAP Executive Coordinator

Member Attendees

George Boehlert, NOAA/NMFS/PFEG
Greg Cailliet, Moss Landing Marine Labs, RAP Chairman
Laura Ehret, Naval Postgraduate School
Steve Eittreim, USGS
Terry Jackson, Manager, Monterey Bay NMS
Deborah Johnston, CA Dept. of Fish and Game/Monterey
Jim Harvey, Moss Landing Marine Labs
Ken Parker, OAB
Andrew DeVogelaere, ESNERR and Foundation
Mark Stephenson, CDFG/Marine Pollution Studies Lab
Chris Harrold, Monterey Bay Aquarium
Don Potts, UCSC

Members Not Able to Attend:

Bill Schramm, OAR
Jan Roletto, GFNMS
Jim Rote, NOAA/OCRM
Gary Sharp, CIRIOS
Rick Starr, Univ. of CA, Sea Grant Advisory Program
Bruce Robison, MBARI
Dennis Powers, Hopkins Marine Station
Cliff Hoskins, Department of the Interior
Les Strnad, California Coastal Commission
Stephen Mueller, Morro Bay Foundation

Guest Attendees:

Roger Phillips, MBA Applied Research Manager
Greg Cailliet, RAP Chair, introduced the meeting.

Quick discussion items:

Introductions - Introductions were made around the table.

Approval of the November 18, 1994, Meeting Minutes (Cailliet) - The Nov. 18, 1994, RAP meeting minutes were unanimously approved without amendment.

Report on the Dec. 9, 1994, SAC meeting (Cailliet) - Greg briefed the RAP on various issues discussed and covered by the SAC including: User Fees, Bluefin funding, San Francisco Wastewater treatment facility, Research Symposium, Cooperating Association, ATOC DEIS, Shark Chumming and creation of an underwater park along Cannery Row. Greg also announced that there was an investigating team from the House Appropriations Committee coming out next month and may wish to meet with several people.

Fort Ord Offshore Environmental Risk Analysis (Cailliet) - Greg announced that his students have finished their project on trawling inside and outside the old Fort Ord restricted area. No assemblage differences seen between between the inside and the outside of the restricted area. There were assemblage differences inside and outside the restricted area based based on depth. It was noted that a large numbers of epidermal lesions were found on Dover sole inside and outside the area.

Research Coordinator Position Status (Jackson) - Terry stated that due to hiring freezes within NOAA, it is presently not possible to hire a Civil Servant to fill the MBNMS Researcher Coordinator position. Therefore, he will pursue the concept of hiring someone on a one-year contract for the time being. Terry asked for help in seeking a way to funnel the funds through an appropriate foundation, etc., to do the work efficiently. Greg reiterated that the RAP would like to be intimately involved in the selection, and would like to do whatever was possible to get the best person for the job. Greg asked that, for the next meeting, the RAP members consider who would be appropriate for a RAP subcommittee on the RC selection.

Site Characterization Update (King) - A written report was handed out to the RAP from the researchers conducting the Site Characterization.
Permit Report (King) - Aaron passed around the latest permit report and noted two research permit applications, one by the Tiburon lab to do some rockfish trawls, and the other by Lockheed wishing to do some work on remotely operated vehicles. More info is available from Aaron if it is desired by the RAP members.

Electronic Communications Update (King) - Aaron stated that he has abandoned the use of the Econet Bulletin Board in favor of using an alias to do shotgun emails to the RAP. Therefore, no one needs to retain their Econet accounts if they can get their email via another system. Aaron also described the MBNMS efforts to obtain a hardwire into the Internet for the purposes of setting up resources (databases, bulletin boards, mail lists, etc.) for use by the research community and the MBNMS community at large. Some discussion ensued and advice given to the MBNMS office by RAP members familiar with the Internet.

Institutional Permit Status (King) - No progress to report.

RAP Binder (King) - No progress to report.

NOAA Guide to MBNMS/GFNMS/CBNMS Marine Researchers (King) - Terry has received permission from Sam Farr’s 1992 Guide. Aaron will start putting this info into a database.

1994 Monterey Bay Research Symposium Wrapup (Cailliet) - The Chair summarized the talks presented and gave a general overview of the events that transpired. The Chair thanked the co-organizers, Mary Yoklavich and Rick Starr, for their help in putting the symposium together.

Next Monterey Bay Research Symposium (Cailliet/Parker) - The Chair stated that he has spent some time putting together a history and records of the Monterey Bay Research Symposium, and asked that records continue to be kept up on the event. He also asked that the next symposium be put on by Parker and someone who had put on the last symposium so continuity existed. Greg stated that he and the other two working group Chairs got together and have agreed that there should be more coordination among the various Sanctuary birthday events. One idea is to roll the reflections event, the public celebrations and the research symposium all into one event, perhaps over a weekend. Ken suggests that the next symposium be a combined site characterizeration/sanctuary visualization topic. He will get together with the various people that will be helpful with this, including Rikk Kivetik and MBARI. Suggestion floored that the next symposium/celebration/etc. should be done around Jan or Feb. of 1996.

RAP/MBNMS Review of Research Proposals

In Review/Reviewed:
- Waddell Bluff/Highway 1 Project (Johnston) - Not yet requested by the SAC to be reviewed.
- Epel Review (Stephenson/Johnston) - Done and signed by Terry/Deborah/Mark; Copies passed
- Pearse Review (DeVogelaere) - Done and signed by Andrew/Terry/James Nybakken; Copies passed out.

New Requests:
- Friends of the Sea Otter (Cailliet) - Given to Chris Harrold.
- Cailliet/Starr Sea Grant Proposal (Cailliet) - Given to Andrew DeVogelaere.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

MBNMS Research Budget (Jackson) - Terry stated that the MBNMS research budget is down from 200k in the beginning to 80k now. Aaron gave a new percentage breakdown of the categories if we followed the 200k scenario: 36K Monitoring, 29K New Research, 15K Data Management. One thing Terry would like to use the money for is to leverage money or commitments from other sources. Another thing Terry could see the money being used for is to support activities of the R/V McArthur when it comes into MBNMS. Aaron raised the issue that the RAP and the Sanctuary should be interested in seeing that the money is not spent year after year on dead end projects, for which the data cannot be transferred and is not additive. Terry suggested that the Sanctuary staff put together a list of what the program sees as top research priorities for management purposes. Greg suggested that the criteria be: long-term, beneficial to Sanctuary management, with clear goals, and possessing quality control. Potts added that the expenditures should also be for things that would not already be occurring if the money was not forthcoming from the Sanctuary. Terry stated that he and Aaron would work up a list of research priorities and submit them to the RAP before the next meeting.

NOAA R/V McArthur (Jackson/Parker) - Terry pointed out the summary sheet that Aaron had put together. Terry wanted to stress the fact that he wanted to be sure we put together a good cruise, with good results, and the possibility of future time being donated is possible. At this point, the summary sheet was discussed project by project. Each institution RAP representative briefed the RAP and answered questions on their respective institution's research plans. Due to non-commitment, Prest's project was scratched from the cruise. Some funds may be needed by the Coring samples study, the Fort Ord Study, Greene's Side-Scan work, and the Pinnacles Study. Terry stated that some limited funds could be made available from the MBNMS research budget for this purpose.

MBA/MLML Weather and Oceanographic Data Collection Program (Harrold/Phillips) - In 1986 the MBA, in conjunction with Dr. Bill Broenkow at MLML, set up an underwater oceanographic data collection and weather monitor program. The sensors collect: wind speed and direction, air temp., relative humidity, solar irradiance, barometric pressure, current speed and direction, temp at 10 meters, plus wave height and frequency. The weather station is on the aquarium roof.
and the oceanographic station is located offshore in the kelp beds. Dr. Broenkow can no longer support the work needed to upkeep the data, and the Aquarium questions the data's usefulness to its primary mission. At the present time, there is a possibility of the REINAS project helping the Aquarium archive the data. The bottom line is that the Aquarium is looking for about a $5000 grant per year to match another $5000 the Aquarium may be willing to foot in order to maintain this project, though the Aquarium would like to find another source of funds in order to get the whole thing funded. The NWS was approached to see about some funding, but they were not interested. Steve Eittreim mentioned a USGS deep-water current meter in the Monterey Canyon that he believed would be a good addition to this data array, and for which he was also hoping to possibly see if some Sanctuary funding was available to maintain. The RAP delayed action until the Sanctuary was able to put together a research priority list.

ATOC DEIS/EIR (Cailliet/Costa) - The Chair gave a background history of what had occurred to date with regard to ATOC, the RAP, and the options available to the RAP. These included doing nothing or passing a resolution on the issue for Greg to present to the SAC. The RAP spent some time discussing how it should proceed. Dan Costa gave the RAP a review of the marine mammal data that had been collected to date, though warned the RAP that these data were only monitoring and survey data; that there had been no manipulative data generated to date, since the ATOC sound source had not been put in. Dan also gave the RAP a description of what the marine mammal research program would do for manipulative studies once the ATOC sound source is in place. This was virtually the same presentation that Dan had made at the public hearing on January 9th. The RAP was generally supportive and impressed with work done by Costa et al to date. After Dan's presentation, Chris Harrold encouraged the RAP to consider the idea of passing a resolution endorsing the restructured ATOC project's placement within the MBNMS. Chris suggested that the entire controversy came down to a weighing of "risks," and that it was his opinion that the risks were acceptable to proceed on this project; that if there was a problem, the sound source could be easily turned off. After further discussion, the Chair suggested that the RAP should form a resolution over the next week (by email), of what it feels is the RAP's consensus. Greg and Deborah offered to come up with a draft resolution, after receiving any comments on Monday, that would be passed around by email until a consensus was reached.

OTHER ITEMS

Other Old Business -

- Biodiversity Conference

- Open

New Business - Open

Items for future meetings -
- Monterey Academy of Oceanography

- April 21, 1994 Meeting: Set last six month RAP
  Meeting Schedule

- GLOBEC

- Open

ADJOURN AT 1745 HRS
January 4, 1994

Research Advisory Panel

Dear Member:

The minutes from the November 18, 1994, RAP meeting and the next meeting’s agenda, are enclosed with this correspondence. The next RAP meeting is being held on Friday, January 13, 1995, in room 330 of the Applied Sciences Building at UCSC from 1 pm to 4:30 pm. If you wish to participate in a tour of the UCSC Science Facilities before the meeting, please contact Dr. Potts (potts@biology.ucsc.edu).

If you have any questions, or wish to add topics to the agenda please contact Aaron King at the numbers listed above.

Hope to see you at UCSC on the 13th.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gregor Cailliet
RAP Chair
January 4, 1994

MBNMS RAP Interested Parties:

The minutes from the November 18, 1994, RAP meeting and the next meeting’s agenda, are enclosed with this correspondence. The next RAP meeting is being held on Friday, January 13, 1995, in room 330 of the Applied Sciences Building at UCSC from 1 pm to 4:30 pm.

While you are not a member of the RAP, this information is being copied to you for informational purposes. However, you are welcome to attend the upcoming meeting as an observer. If you would like to attend, please call me at the numbers listed above.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to discuss RAP communications with you. There are three means by which I communicate and coordinate activities of the RAP: mail, fax and email. Lately, the RAP has become extremely dependent upon email communications. Every member of the RAP has email, and this process makes it very easy for me to coordinate their activities. If some material contains graphics, or is too long for email, I may fax it to each of the RAP members (since they all have fax machines also). Finally, if some correspondence is too long or inappropriate for faxing, I may mail it to the RAP membership. The bottom line is that many of you do not have email or fax capabilities. If you don’t, you cannot be assured of receiving all RAP correspondence. If you want to be assured of receiving all this info, please arrange for email and fax service and I will be happy to add you to those lists.

Sincerely,

Mr. Aaron E. King
RAP Executive Coordinator
January 4, 1994

To: RAP Members

From: Dr. Don Potts

Re: INVITATION TO VISIT NEW UCSC EM&S BUILDING

I would like to invite any RAP members interested in seeing the new Earth and Marine Sciences Building (EM&S) at UCSC to join me for a tour before the next RAP meeting. It will begin at 11 AM on Friday 13 January in the main lobby of the EM&S building. Afterwards, there will be time for lunch at one of the campus eateries before the RAP meeting at 1 PM.

Please RSVP to me (potts@biology.ucsc.edu) by 10 January so that I will know who to expect and can make arrangements to visit particular labs, etc.

Looking forward to seeing you
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Introduction of Members and Participants

a) Members Not Able to Attend:

b) Meeting Member Substitutions:

c) Guest Attendees:

- Roger Phillips, MBA Applied Research Manager

List:

Greg Cailliet, MLML - RAP Chairman
Laura Ehret, Naval Postgraduate School
Steve Eittrheim, USGS
Chris Harrold, Monterey Bay Aquarium
Jim Harvey, Moss Landing Marine Labs
Cliff Hoskins, Department of the Interior
Terry Jackson, Manager, Monterey Bay NMS
Deborah Johnston, CA DFG/ Monterey
Ken Parker, OAB
Don Potts, UCSC
Stephen Mueller, Morro Bay Foundation
Bill Schramm, OAB
Gary Sharp, CIRIOS
Rick Starr, Univ. of CA, Sea Grant Advisory Program
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George Boehlert, NOAA/NMFS/PFEG
Andrew DeVogelaere, ESNERR and Foundation
Dennis Powers, Hopkins Marine Station
Bruce Robison, MBARI
Jan Roletto, GFNMS
Jim Rote, NOAA/OCRM
Les Strnad, CA Coastal Commission

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Research Coordinator Position Status (Jackson)

Site Characterization Update (King)

Permit Report (King)

Electronic Communications Update (King)

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RAP Binder (King)

NOAA Guide to MBNMS Marine Researchers (King)

1994 Monterey Bay Research Symposium Wrapup (Cailliet)

Next Monterey Bay Research Symposium (Parker)

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BREAK

DISCUSSION ITEMS

MBNMS Research Budget (Jackson)

NOAA R/V McArthur (Jackson/Sharp)

ATOC DEIS/EIR (Johnston)

MBA/MLML Weather and Oceanographic Data Collection Program (Harrold/Phillips)

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  - Open

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ADJOURN
Dear Members:

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I have just placed the Nov. 18 Draft Minute and the Jan. 13 Agenda into the mail for you. Please contact me if you wish to place any other items on the meeting agenda.

Sincerely,

Aaron King
Dear RAP Interested Parties:

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Aaron King