

MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
ADVISORY COUNCIL

RESEARCH ACTIVITY PANEL

Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 20, 1995
NOAA Facility, Pacific Grove

Members in Attendance included:

George Boehlert, NOAA/NMFS/PFEG
Greg Cailliet, MLML
Andrew DeVogelaere, MBNMS
Chris Harrold, Monterey Bay Aquarium
Terry Jackson, MBNMS
Ken Parker
Leslie Rosenfeld (replacing Laura Ehret), NPGS
Jim Rote, CSUMB/MBNMS
Mark Stephenson, CDFG/Marine Pollution Studies Lab
Les Strnad, CCC
Geoff Wheat, NURP

Members not in attendance included:

Laura Ehret, NPGS
Steve Eittreim, USGS
Jim Harvey, MLML
Deborah Johnston, CDFG
Patricia Port, Department of the Interior
Don Potts, UCSC
Dennis Powers, Hopkins Marine Station
Gary Sharp, CSUMB, CIRIOS
Rick Starr, University of CA, Sea Grant Advisory Program
Bruce Robison, MBARI
Jan Roletto, GF/CB NMS
Karen Worcester, Morro Bay Foundation

Special Guests included:

David Andres, General Manager, Cambria Community Services District
Gib Bogle, Water Engineering & Modeling
Leland Fausak, Marine Resource Consultants, Inc.
Caroline Pomeroy, UCSC
Erin Mitchell, CSUMB
Steve Sylvester, Cambria Desalination Plant Project Manager/District Engineer
Rick Ware, Coastal Resources Management

RAP members enjoyed an open discussion period during a working BBQ lunch from Noon to 1:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The Draft minutes from the September 15, 1995 meeting were approved as amended.

III. CAMBRIA DESALINATION PLANT

A team from the Cambria Desalination Plant Project gave a presentation describing the details of the project. Some penetrating questions were asked by RAP members.

The RAP Subcommittee investigating the Cambria Desalination Plant Project will prepare a written report and present it to Sanctuary management by early November.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Draft McArthur Cruise Research Priority Report (DeVogelaere) -- The report assesses research priorities for next year's cruise and includes: a review of successes and problems from last year; suggested priorities from the MBNMS office and research community; and ancillary e-mail comments.

The RAP suggested that one criterion for accepting future cruise proposals be the ability to complete the shore-based analysis. It was also suggested that future cruise projects try to collaborate with existing NOAA programs, such as the Teachers at Sea Program, which might result in some additional returns for the project. Finally, the RAP recommended that cruise priorities match those contained in the revised Sanctuary Research Plan as much as possible.

Andrew DeVogelaere will write a more detailed summary of the discussion, including specific research topics, for reference when proposals are submitted. RAP recommendations will be incorporated into the final version.

V. SHORT INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Report on the September 1995 Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting (Cailliet) - Highlights from the September Advisory Council meeting included the following:

- An update from the Strategic Planning Committee;
- An update on marketing plans for the Sanctuary license plate;
- A report from the Advisory Council's Subcommittee working to promote and secure long-term funding for the State Mussel Watch Program;
- Approval of its comments on the California Resources Agency's Draft Document entitled "California's Ocean Resources: An Agenda for the Future"; and,
- A report and discussion on the Central California Regional Water Recycling Project.

The Advisory Council voted to send comments before the November 1 deadline, supporting water recycling projects, but strongly opposing the dumping of agricultural wastewater discharge into the ocean.

The next meeting of the Sanctuary Advisory Council is Friday, December 1, 1995 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at a place to be determined.

- B. Update on Monterey Bay Regional Studies Program (UCSC) grant for Graduate Training in Multidisciplinary Regional Studies (Potts) -- discussion was postponed until the December meeting.
- C. All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory, ATBI (Cailliet) -- The Center for Marine Conservation and the Smithsonian Institution will be co-sponsoring a workshop on biodiversity in Washington, D.C. from October 25-28, 1995. A delegation from Monterey will be attending the symposium to promote the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary as a potential site for a Marine ATBI site. A twenty page document has been prepared to support the position.
- D. Scientific Research Plan Update (DeVogelaere) -- The comment period on the Sanctuary Research Plan has been extended until the end of November.
- E. AAAS Conference at SJSU (DeVogelaere) -- A draft plan for a one-day session in Monterey has been submitted to the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) planning committee.
- F. Marine Mammal Research RFP (DeVogelaere) -- The contract has been awarded to Dan Costa, Don Croll, Jim Harvey and Terry Williams to evaluate critical habitats and feeding behaviors of Blue Whales, Humpback Whales, Pacific White Sided Dolphins and Harbor Porpoises. The study will correlate marine mammal distribution with prey, and the physical features of the feeding area. The team will be invited to give a presentation to the RAP when their project is complete.
- G. Fort Ord Update (Cailliet) -- Because of a shortfall of approximately \$30k in the originally proposed budget for research in Fort Ord's former restricted zone, efforts are being made to secure the needed funds from a number of alternate resources including the Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the Army.
- H. Future Meeting Dates and Times (DeVogelaere) -- Proposed dates and locations for the next six meetings of the RAP are as follows:
- December 8, 1995 -- Hopkins Marine Station
January 19, 1996 -- CSUMB
February 16, 1996 -- CDFG
March 15, 1996 -- CCC
April 19, 1996 -- Monterey Bay Aquarium
May 17, 1996 -- MLML, Del Norte Shoreline Facility
June 21, 1996 -- NPGS
- Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will be from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Please let Andrew know at (831) 647-4213 if there is a problem.
- I. Institutional Permit Status (DeVogelaere) -- Still waiting for the response from Washington, D.C.
- J. Monterey Bay Research Symposium (Cailliet) -- There is a planning meeting on October 30 at the offices of the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) to discuss the agenda. The Symposium will combine research, conservation, education, and business interests, although the first night will be dedicated to research only.

Discussion of the status of Ken Parker's Ocean Search Project ensued. The RAP agreed to consider a letter of support for the program after receiving a copy of the original proposal, a progress report, and revised timelines and options.

K. Permit Report (See handout) -- contact Scott Kathey at (831) 647-4251 for questions and comments about the Permit Report.

VI. OTHER ITEMS

A. Request by Jack Wickham for more Physical Oceanography representation on the RAP -- Concerns were raised that the range of interests covered by the RAP members may not represent all the areas of expertise needed to address issues that come before the RAP. RAP members suggested that, as vacancies arise, institutions could be encouraged to appoint representatives who fill gaps in the working group's area of expertise.

The RAP did concur, however, that there was a need to review the membership list and to send everyone a formal request for alternates.

B. New Business --

- Rick Starr was nominated and approved as the RAP's Vice-Chair;
- Mark your Calendars:
- November 3-4, 1995 - The World Affairs Council's Annual Fall Conference, "The International Marine Environment: Issues and Challenges," at the Monterey Peninsula College. For more information call 625-0208;
- November 7-8, 1995 - the National Undersea Research Program (NURP) will be meeting at the Monterey Bay Aquarium to decide on proposals for 1996 grants. Contact Geoff Wheat for more information;
- November 9, 1995 - Dr. Cindy Lee Van Dover, Associate Research Professor, University of Alaska - Fairbanks, and Science Director for the West Coast National Undersea Research Center, will be speaking at Moss Landing Marine Lab's Shore Lab Norte in the Second Floor Conference Room. The lecture will begin at 4:00 p.m. and is entitled, "Light at Deep-Sea Hydrothermal Vents and its Biological Consequences."

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. DeLay
SAC Coordinator