

**MBNMS Research Activity Panel
Meeting Summary
May 8, 2009**

Host: Churchill Grimes – Fisheries (NOAA Fisheries Service)

Location: NOAA Fisheries Service
110 Shaffer Road
Santa Cruz, CA

Date: Friday, May 8th, 2009; 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Members:

	Discipline	Primary/ Alternate	Name	Institution
X	Research Coordinator		DeVogelaere, Andrew	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
	Biological Oceanography	primary	Chavez, Francisco	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
X	Biological Oceanography	alternate	Kudela, Raphael	University of California, Santa Cruz
X	Deep-Sea Ecology	primary	Cailliet, Greg	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
	Deep-Sea Ecology	alternate		
X	Estuarine Ecology	primary	Wasson, Kerstin	Elkhorn Slough NERR and Foundation
	Estuarine Ecology	alternate	Van Dyke, Eric	Elkhorn Slough NERR and Foundation
X	Fisheries	primary	Grimes, Churchill	NOAA Fisheries Service
	Fisheries	alternate	Vasques, Jason	California Department of Fish & Game
X	Marine & Coastal Geology	primary	Storlazzi, Curt	United States Geological Survey
	Marine & Coastal Geology	alternate	Paull, Charles	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
	Marine Conservation Biology	primary	Harrold, Chris*	Monterey Bay Aquarium
	Marine Conservation Biology	alternate	Micheli, Fiorenza	Hopkins Marine Station
	Marine Policy	primary		
X	Marine Policy	alternate	Sharp, Gary	Center for Climate/Ocean Resources Study
X	Nearshore Ecology	primary	Lindholm, James	California State University Monterey Bay
	Nearshore Ecology	alternate	Carr, Mark	University of California, Santa Cruz
	Physical Oceanography	primary	McPhee-Shaw, Erika	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
X	Physical Oceanography	alternate	Ramp, Steve	CeNCOOS/MBARI
X	Shelf & Slope Ecology	primary	Yoklavich, Mary	NOAA Fisheries Service
	Shelf & Slope Ecology	alternate	Starr, Rick	California Sea Grant Extension Program
	Social Sciences	primary	Pomeroy, Caroline	California Sea Grant Extension Program
	Social Sciences	alternate	Kildow, Judith	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
	Water Quality	primary	Epel, David	Hopkins Marine Station
X	Water Quality	alternate	Hunt, John†	University of California, Davis

*Sanctuary Advisory Council Member: Research (Primary)

†Sanctuary Advisory Council Member: Research (Alternate)

GUESTS:

	Name	Institution
X	Burton, Erica	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	Choy, Steve	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	Conley, Gary	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	Eng, Mike	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	Henkel, Laird	Office of Spill Prevention and Response/CDFG
X	Kerkering, Heather	CeNCOOS
X	LaFranchi, Chris	West Coast Regional Office, National Marine Sanctuaries
X	Lonhart, Steve	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	Scheiblaue, Steve	City of Monterey
X	Travell, Alex	Airship Ventures, Inc.
X	Uttal, Lisa	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	Wadsworth, Tom	CeNCOOS
X	Wooninck, Lisa	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

CONSENT ITEMS**Introductions/Modifications to the Agenda (John Hunt)**

- Modification: SAC meeting debrief will be covered by Mike Eng

PRESENTATION**Causes of the Decline of Sacramento Fall Run Chinook Salmon Fishery (Churchill Grimes/NOAA Fisheries Service)**

- Churchill presented the status of the fishery, and possible causes for the recent decline (including poor ocean conditions, declining fitness, habitat degradation, reduced diversity from hatcheries)

STAFF/SAC REQUESTS TO RAP**Info Request: SIMoN Update (Andrew DeVogelaere/Steve Lonhart/MBNMS)**

- Steve and Andrew gave a brief overview of SIMoN including:
 - Purpose and structure of SIMoN
 - Resources (financial, personnel, R/V Fulmar)
 - Partnering Institutions, PIs, central coast NMS
 - Future for SIMoN: Major efforts/products, priorities, expansion

PRESENTATION

Zeppelin NT Airship: Research Platform Capabilities (Alex Travell/Airship Ventures, Inc.)

- Alex Travell presented aspects of the airship as they relate to research use, including airship specifications, research applications, and cost
- Several local scientists participated in a test ride, including Chris Harrold and Andrew DeVogelaere
- For more information see www.airshipventures.com

DISCUSSION ITEM

SAC Meeting Debrief (Mike Eng/MBNMS)

- Mike provided a recap of the April 17th SAC meeting (http://montereybay.noaa.gov/intro/advisory/sac_min.html)
- Major topics included: California's Introduced Species Strategy, Enforcement Working Group Report; Prioritization of MBNMS Action Plans (expected in June); and the MBNMS Federal MPA process

MBNMS FEDERAL MPAs INITIATIVE

Update: MBNMS Federal MPAs Initiative (Mike Eng/MBNMS)

- Mike provided an update on the MPA initiative
- The planning process is continuing to evolve
- Mike reviewed the generic steps in the NEPA process
- MBNMS is consulting with other agencies to integrate during the planning process (bringing this step in earlier here than in the generic NEPA process)
- Several next steps include:
 - Formation of a NMFS (Northwest and Southwest) and MBNMS/West Coast NMS team to explore opportunities for complimentary and/or collaborative, integrated planning and decision making processes that would transition towards more ecosystem based approaches to management
 - Potential opportunities for collaboration being explored
 - Coordinating and/or integrating MBNMS MPA planning process with EFH review process
 - Integrating west coast NMSs into development of an ecosystem fishery manage plan (EFMP) for WA, OR, CA
 - Integrating West Coast NMS into development of a fisheries ecosystem plan (FEP) for the CA current thru a programmatic EIS (PEIS)
 - Integrating MBNMS MPA planning process with a sub-regional (e.g., Cape to Cape) modular approach to development of a Fisheries Ecosystem Plan (FEP) for the CA current

- Jointly sponsor an IEA to support and inform each agency's planning and decision-making process
- Additional possibilities to be explored:
 - Coordinating a federal/state approach to ecosystem assessment and planning for the CA Current LME using a nested set of IEAs conducted at different scales
 - Coordinating and/or integrating MBNMS MPA planning process with EFH Review Process and TNC-lead Conservation Fishing Agreement and Community Fishing Association initiative along Central Coast
- Establishment of Working Group and Scientific Panel are postponed until interagency consultation is complete (~September)

DISCUSSION ITEM

Sanctuary Currents Symposium Debrief (Steve Choy/MBNMS)

- More than 300 people attended
- A record number of research posters were presented (65)
- For more info, including abstracts, see:
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/research/currsymp2009/welcome.html>

SUGGESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Grimes:

- CeNCOOS update (new website; activities)
- Analytical approach to MPAs: Alec MacCall (NOAA Fisheries)

Storlazzi:

- High-res models of CA: Cayan or Dettinger (USGS)

Future Agenda Items (running list):

- Water Quality
 - Critical coastal areas presentation (ASBS, areas water quality impaired, areas in good state; Ross Clark)
- SIMoN
 - SIMoN Special Status Species Project (Jennifer Brown)
 - Linking SIMoN to management (Amber Szoboszlai)
- MPAs
 - MPA science synthesis – MLPA (Mark Carr)
 - MPA monitoring projects (Jason Vasques)
- Communication Partnership for Science and the Sea (COMPASS)
- Wave Model Development and Implementation (Paul Wittmann/Fleet Numerical)
- Data integration across monitoring programs (e.g., water quality, PISCO, MARINE, IOOS), and availability to the public
- MARS cable (per Kildow, speaker = Marcia or other, schedule when MBARI hosts)
- Recent event: Supreme Court allows Navy Sonar (per John Hunt)
- NOAA Twin Otter plane comes to Monterey

- *RAP identified priority of Future Agenda topics (9/12/08):*
 1. *MPA Science Synthesis – MLPA (Mark Carr)*

2009 RAP Meeting Schedule and Locations (Revised 3/27/09)

Date	Host	Location
January 9	Lindholm	CSU Monterey Bay
March 13	Harrold	Monterey Bay Aquarium
May 8	Grimes/Yoklavich	NOAA Fisheries, Santa Cruz
July 10	Carr	Long Marine Lab, UC Santa Cruz
September 11	Micheli/Epel	Hopkins Marine Station
November 13	Chavez	MBARI
