Sanctuary Education Panel (SEP) Report for December 2013 SAC Meeting

The SEP met on Thursday, Nov 21, 2013, 3-5 pm, at Moss Landing Marine Labs.

Attendees:
• Simona Bartl (SEP chair) • Pamela Wade (MBA)
• Amity Sandage (SEP vice chair) by phone • Laura Barns (O’Neill Sea Odyssey)
• Dawn Hayes (MBNMS) • John Trapani (SEC Volunteer)
• Lisa Uttal (MBNMS) • Steve Clark (Retired teacher)
• Liz Love (MBNMS) • Virginia Guhin (ESNEER)
• Amity Wood (Camp SEA Lab) • Suzanne Hebert (LML) by phone
• Rita Bell (MBA) • Pat Clark-Gray (CA state Parks) by phone

At this meeting the SEP begin a process of restructuring. Proposals that were discussed:
1. Kick off each year with a “State of the Sanctuary” presentation in September. Meeting would outline top educational priorities for the Sanctuary and the SEP would identify 1-2 to focus their attention on for the coming year.
   a. Marine debris would be the likely focus for this year
      i. Outcomes: tools, messages, resources useful to all SEP constituents and to the MBNMS; NO new curriculum development
      ii. Many SEP members already addressing marine debris, could highlight and promote. Possible outcome: a matrix of what programs, activities and resources are available to teachers at each grade level
      iii. Also identify communication and resource gaps
   b. Tie into the Sanctuary Symposium in April. Set aside time during Posters for education panel discussion, presentation, or workshop. Could be in Watershed Institute conference room
      i. Emphasize new common core/NGS standards to make it more valuable to the teachers
2. Possible news article focused on a different SEP program each month building up to April, posted in CREEC on-line newsletter
3. Still need to consider:
   a. Changing from 5 meetings a year. One possibility is to have an annual meeting and then smaller topic-driven working groups
   b. How to reach more formal educators
   c. Dates for 2014 meetings

Simona shared the process of the small working group that met over the summer to create an educational packet that was given at the Sea Turtle Summit to a professor of economics from West Papua. The education/outreach-working group at the summit drafted next steps. This fall many teachers and students learned about the plight of Pacific leatherback through the work of Dr. Bartl and Rachel Kibben (Save our shores). Some enthusiastic groups are developing action plans to help especially the 5th grade classes at Mt Madonna School.

Joint meeting and lunch - MBEE and SEP at MBARI - Wednesday, December 4th Noon-2:00pm
• The start of a beautiful collaboration…. 