



**Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council Meeting Agenda
Bodega Marine Lab
March 13th, 2007**

Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary

**SANCTUARY ADVISORY
COUNCIL**

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Topics and Objectives</u>
	9:30-9:40	Welcome, Roll Call, Review Agenda - Tom Lambert
MEMBERS:	9:40-9:50	Review Last Meeting's Minutes (December 6th) Tom Lambert
Carol Keiper <i>Research</i>	9:50-10:00	Public Comment
Lance Morgan <i>Conservation</i>	10:00-10:30	Manager's Report Dan Howard (Reauthorization, Budget Update, LT Meeting, change September SAC Meeting Date, Education Update)
Chuck Wise <i>Maritime Activity</i>	10:30-11:00	Research Report Lisa Etherington, John Largier (New Research Buoy, CBOMP Data)
Tom Lambert <i>Community-at-Large Sonoma</i>	11:00-11:15	Break
Joe Smith <i>Community-at-Large Marin</i>	11:15-12:00	Council Member Reports Tom Lambert
Doreen Gurrola <i>Education</i>	12:00-12:15	Sanctuary Boundary Expansion Bill Tom Roth
Steve Edmondson <i>National Marine Fisheries Service</i>	12:15-12:30	Questions for Tom Roth
Captain David Swatland <i>U.S. Coast Guard</i>	12:30-12:45	Protocols for Development of SAC Resolutions - Tom Lambert
Daniel Cohen <i>Research Alternate</i>	12:45 – 1:30	Lunch
Todd Steiner <i>Conservation Alternate</i>	1:30-3:30	Panel Discussion – Supporting West Marin and West Sonoma Heritage Fishing Communities, and Low Impact Fishing Methods at Cordell Bank Rod Fujita – Environmental Defense Zeke Grader – PCFFA

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
March 13th, 2007
Minutes

Meeting Commenced at 9:42 a.m.

Materials Distributed –

Agenda
December, 2006 meeting minutes

Roll -

Council Members Present:

Joe Smith
Erica Burton (for MBNMS)
Chuck Wise
Dan Cohen
Josh Churchman
Tom Lambert
Captain David Swatland
Todd Steiner
Michael Mery
Doreen Moser

Council Members Absent:

Carol Keiper
Lance Morgan
Duffy Ross

Voting Alternates:

Daniel Cohen
Todd Steiner

Staff Present:

Dan Howard
Rowena Forest
Jenny Stock
Lisa Etherington
Dale Roberts

Review Last Meeting's Minutes, 12/6/06 -

Motion

Todd Steiner moved to approve minutes as amended

Dan Cohen Seconded

All in favor

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
March 13th, 2007
Minutes

Public Comment

Public present –
Dave Yarger
Charles Ford
Dave Leech
Richard Charter
Peter Pyle

Manager's Report - Dan Howard

Dan reported on the following:
Leadership Team Meeting and Capital Hill Visits in Washington D.C.–
National Marine Sanctuary Program budget –
Reauthorization of the Sanctuaries Act.

Michael Mery asked what Council members can do to support a better budget scenario. Dan Howard responded - as Advisory Council members the council can work through the program hierarchy to make recommendations on budget, members can also act on their own as individuals and lobby congress for a better budget allocation for the Sanctuary program.

Dan met with Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey and staff from Mike Thompson's office regarding the Sanctuary Boundary Expansion Bill

Dan outlined that the facilities budget will be increased this year – there will be no earmarks on facility projects.

Todd Steiner asked Dan to clarify how the NWHI National Marine Monument (Papahānaumokuākea) will be managed differently than the Sanctuaries.

Education Report – Jenny Stock

Jenny covered the following topics (please see Education Report Attachment for details):

Joint albatross tagging project with CBNMS and Oikonos

Bay Watershed and Education Training grants (BWET).

Jenny shared the KWMR Ocean Currents radio show for the year

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
March 13th, 2007
Minutes

Oakland Museum Exhibit

New Sanctuary signage

The CBNMS Point Reyes National Seashore Association Field Seminar and field trip.

Cordell Expedition divers interpretive materials

Oceans for Life Sanctuary videos

Josh Churchman suggested that Jenny host a fisheries biologist and a local fisherman on the air for her radio show. Todd Steiner suggested leatherback turtle information be featured on the KWMR radio show at some point.

Interactive touch-screen kiosk Bear Valley Visitor Center

Sanctuaries will be hosting a booth at the Marin County Fair

Research Report – Lisa Etherington, John Largier

Lisa Etherington covered the following:

Upcoming research projects:

Cruise in May on the Fulmar, which will focus on soft-bottom habitats

Testing methods for removal of derelict fishing gear

Seabird Abundance at Cordell Bank Associated with changes in regional oceanographic conditions – presentation from the Pacific Seabird Group meeting:

Included:

Benthic habitats

Oceanographic conditions and current systems

Biologic responses to changing oceanographic conditions

Effects on breeding Cassin's Auklets

Objectives

Cordell Bank Ocean Monitoring Project

Statistical analyses – Auklets, Sooty Shearwaters, Black-footed albatross, Brown pelican

Species composition

Conclusions

Future work – bathymetric features, oceanographic data, relationships of chlorophyll A and Krill, integrate CBOMP results with other West Coast monitoring programs.

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
March 13th, 2007
Minutes

Oceanographic Buoy Update:

Collaborative project with NOAA and the Bodega Marine Lab
Data set and availability on-line in real time on Bodega Ocean Observing Node (BOON)
and National Data Buoy Center (NDBC)
Buoy number is #46095
Proposed anchorage = 85m depth, mud bottom, low relief

CNCOOS – CA North Coast Ocean Observing System

John Largier covered:

What the buoys are observing and data collected.
Fine points of upwelling off the N CA coast
Currents during upwelling at Cordell Bank and along the coast
Currents fed by waters from Pt Arena
Upwelling and nutrient dispersal in relation to Cordell Bank
Does the Bank get affected by the San Francisco Bay and Russian River outflow
Four immediate interests in Cordell Bank Mooring: food subsidy to CB, land runoff and
bay outflow on CB, dispersal of eggs, larvae and juveniles of CB populations, indices of
temporal variability in CB environment

Tom Lambert asked if there is the possibility of linking acoustic recording equipment to
this buoy. John – yes, as the need arises for further studies like this. Lisa also commented
on this topic.

Member Reports –

Captain David Swatland –

U.S. Coast Guard Weapons Training Areas:

The training areas are suspended due to controversy in the Great Lakes area with this
program. An Environmental Impact Statement will be required if it will be restarted

Mavericks surf contest will be treated as a tsunami drill by the USCG

Levee condition and failure in the SF Bay Delta in partnership with State agencies. The
USCG is trying to clean up houseboat areas in the Delta.

The USCG will be dealing with the All-Star baseball game in July at Giants Stadium as a
drill, and is on standby for crowds on the water

Tom Lambert –

National SAC Meeting:

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
March 13th, 2007
Minutes

The National Chairs-Coordinators meeting will be in Newport News Virginia in May. Tom would like information from the SAC to share informally with Dan Basta, Sanctuary leadership, and the other SAC Chairs. Tom outlined the regional case study to be presented which will illustrate the relationship of the West Coast National Marine Sanctuaries with the Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC).

Tom announced the American Fisheries Society meeting will be September 2-9, 2007 in San Francisco.

Doreen Moser –

Attended Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary symposium
SeaFlow, a non-profit in Marin, wants to create working groups to formulate the next steps to take to protect marine ecosystems from ocean noise.

Doreen mentioned an oiled juvenile elephant seal was found off Santa Cruz. This could have been caused by natural oil seeps.

Chuck Wise –

Dan Howard visited the last Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations meeting to inform the fishing community about the Cordell Bank buoy. Dan mentioned he will get the exact location to the fishing community once it's in the water.

The crab fishery is winding down this year. It's been a good season. Salmon fishing this year is already looking like it will be a better year than last year. The Klamath fish abundance is up. The jack numbers returning to the Klamath basin are the highest on record, but the returns to the Sacramento basin is lowest on record. Last year the high rain levels in the Klamath helped to flush the system and make it healthier.

Michael Mery –

Tomales Bay Watershed Council and the Point Reyes National Seashore Association applied to the Dept of Water Resources for a large grant and received it. This will be used for Giacomini Marsh water quality testing and wetlands projects.

Todd Steiner –

Drift gill net fishery area in the leatherback conservation zone will remain closed this year. Todd discussed his trip to New Guinea to study Leatherback Turtle issues there. The New Guinean Conservation Deed Trust environmental model will be used to protect turtles there.

The Coho salmon count in the Tomales Bay watershed was down this season. This could be due to oceanic or flood events in the last two seasons. Returning Steelhead trout are at record high numbers.

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
March 13th, 2007
Minutes

Josh Churchman –

Caught silver-grey rockfish (*Sebastes brevispinis*) on Cordell Bank February, 2007. A six pound female – the northern version of a Bocaccio rockfish

Sanctuary Boundary Expansion Bill – Tom Roth

Tom Roth passed out copies of the boundary map and bill language.

Tom discussed the following: There is a new congress, which gives this bill an opportunity to move forward. The last congress did all they could to open up the moratorium on oil and gas drilling. The bill was almost attached to the Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization by Senator Boxer. Senator Pombo fought this and the legislation was dropped, but this would have been a bare-bones version. Constituents and the Marine Sanctuary Program were consulted and changes and provisions were made to the bill. The bill is moving forward. The boundary of Cordell Bank NMS was not changed further from the original extension proposed. Republican support was sought at the State and Federal level. This did not occur until now – Congressmen Saxton and Gilchrest are now on board. House Speaker Pelosi's staff have pledged to support the bill. Currently Tom Roth is working locally to gain support for the bill – through scientific establishments and local governments.

If interested, citizens can write to Congressman Nick Rahall – Chairman of the House Resources Committee. Lynn Woolsey is trying to get this on the suspension calendar at the House of Representatives, which will allow it to move up the process quickly. Or it might be attached to the Reauthorization of the Marine Sanctuaries Act.

This bill does not impose any fishing regulations, and all existing laws will stay in place. The process seeks to involve the fishing community.

Questions for Tom Roth

Joe Smith asked for clarification of new boundary lines: Tom elaborated on the reasons for the creation of the lines of the map to slow oil and gas exploration/encompassing existing oil and gas tracts, and to encompass upwelling and geographic features.

Lisa asked why the northern area was not nominated as a separate Sanctuary. Tom: the infrastructure for a new Sanctuary would be difficult to pass and develop

Doreen commented on the huge area expansion and staff/budget concerns.

Michael Mery commented that the Point Reyes National Seashore was designated and boundaries set without funding until two administrations later.

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
March 13th, 2007
Minutes

Dan Howard commented that he is happy to see the boundary expanded up to Point Arena, which makes much more sense biologically.

Tom Lambert clarified SAC communication policy in approaching Congress about this bill.

The Council discussed approaching support of this as a Council or as citizens.

Protocols for Development of SAC Resolutions – Tom Lambert

Tom Lambert passed out the proposed resolution language to the Council and explained how he developed this language – which was a result of he and Rowena (Advisory Council Coordinator) polling the other site SAC Chairs and Coordinators about their protocols, and from that taking language that worked for the Cordell Bank Council. The Council discussed the language and how to best encompass all resolution and educational opportunities to the SAC within these protocols.

Tom suggested once a procedure is agreed-on, that it be filed in the SAC binder/handbook.

Dan Cohen mentioned that he is not comfortable with unanimous approval in order to get a resolution on the agenda. The Council discussed this. Tom clarified that this is only for last minute resolution additions to the agenda.

Panel Discussion – Supporting West Marin and West Sonoma Heritage Fishing Communities and Low Impact Fishing Methods at Cordell Bank – Rod Fujita and Zeke Grader

Tom Lambert introduced Rod and Zeke, with their background and affiliations.

Zeke Grader –

Discussed near-shore fishing practices with fishery resources under stress – slow living, living in sensitive habitats. Allow for fishing of high value/low impact fishing. A collection of different types of fisheries working together out of one port – a collective. Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Associations (PCFFA) has felt for some time that the Country really moved ahead with development of US fisheries after the 1977 passage of the Magnuson Act. This encouraged large factory ships to fish offshore for untapped resources. No assessment was ever made of what was there to begin with. Abundant stocks were assumed. Foreign boats were phased-out, but stock was still not assessed. The rude awakening happened in the late ‘80’s and early 90’s with collapse of

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
March 13th, 2007
Minutes

some stocks. Now stocks are in a rebuilding phase. Question before us is what do we do now that some stocks are recovering? Large trawlers did much damage and high-take. What type of fisheries do we want now in the next go-around? Big trawlers are clamoring to get back in, but now is time for locally-based, low catch, high value fishing to take place.

Policy – PCFFA likes the Sanctuary Program and supports boundary expansion, but fisheries management should remain with the experts – CA State and PFMC, although there are some things wrong with both groups. Sanctuaries should not get involved with regulating fisheries, but should get involved on a level of protecting the resources: both biological and human heritage/communities. The Sanctuaries should then work with the PFMC through an informed study committee that examines the issues. Then assign somebody through the SAC and Sanctuary to work closely with the PFMC, USCG, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and CA State Fish and Game to try to get over the turf-oriented nature of these entities.

Josh suggested the CBSAC re-form a fishing working group in order to track emerging issues and research these with a full scientific approach. Josh discussed the perils of “limited entry open access” fishing allocations. This leads to no-more younger generations of fishermen coming in, industry buying the permits, and the collapse of small fishing communities.

Rod commented that limited entry will occur, but this may not eliminate fishing communities. There are cooperative structures, and other methods that could value intergenerational fishing heritage. Fisheries need to be organized to encourage small-high value take.

Rod Fujita Presentation –

Slides:

Ports

Preserving heritage

Strategies – align business and conservation incentives, area management co-management, financing, asset building, remove bottlenecks at Dept Fish and Game, Fish and Game Commission

Aligning incentives – designated access privileges = strong conservation goals (total allowable catch (TAC), by-catch, habitat), sectors cooperatives, communities, individual fishing quotas (IFQ's), design issues, markets

Conservation measures limit efficiency of the business end of fishing. So how to balance the two: helping the industry with profit incentives, innovative less prescriptive approaches, ITQ's which are more controversial, allocate quota shares to areas, etc.. There are currently co-ops and ITQ systems around the world.

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
March 13th, 2007
Minutes

Through marketing – labeling as local, sustainably caught, well packaged with this info, can sell for a lot more money.

Area management –

Internalizing conservation benefits, tailor management measures, localized stock assessment, local control over assets, (DAPs, permit banking idea – shelter permits and protect for the community, financial assets)

Financing – build assets instead of focusing on short-term survival and cash flow – grants, revolving loan fund (CA Fisheries Fund)

Fishing community running as an organization with a cooperative fund - low interest loans to fisherman with sound environmental business plans.

Plan – aligning incentives:

Reduce trawl effort and habitat impact, IFQ remaining trawlers, promote use of lower impact gear, build stronger markets for local seafood

Building stronger markets:

Marketing messaging, chef's collaborative, buyers cooperative, corporate partnerships, regional coop to aggregate supply, business planning (project demand, stabilize supply)

Area Management -

Create stewardship areas for area management, co-management entities (harvest, marketing, buying cooperatives, permit banking, insurance, retirement, etc)

Financing –

Pilot fisheries/areas, Pilot phase of CFF, Cultivate deal flow, Expansion phase of CFF

Removing bottlenecks –

DFG and FGC need direction and capacity, legislation (AB 1280, Laird)

Working together –

Example - Morro Bay trawler buyout

Options, quid pro quo, conservation targets, collaborative drafting using fine scale data
Result was unanimous vote to ban trawling in 3.8 million acres

Summary –

Align incentives and improve access to fish

Area management

Improve markets

Provide financing

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
March 13th, 2007
Minutes

Improve DFG and FGC capacity,
Work together to generate political will

Questions –
Effect of Global Warming on these fisheries

Todd Steiner –
With a share of the fishery your asset increases over time. The lobsterman of Mexico are self regulating their fishing grounds and preserving those stocks and the habitat.

Zeke commented that the basics of fancy market mechanisms don't work. Capitalism only works by virtue of tough regulation. Zeke used the example that the killing of albatross was self-regulated by fishermen.

Rod countered that conventional mechanisms haven't worked either. And the example of the collapse of the rockfish fishery.

Zeke discussed the example of the Delta ecosystem collapse. Rod and Zeke agreed that you need incentives through leverage = capital, power, etc..

Zeke and Rod discussed this in terms of gear selection to preserve species such as seabirds, marine mammals, and sea turtles. There's got to be the capital to support fishing gear to be more benign and encourage species protection.

Josh Churchman commented that he's the last permitted rockfish fisherman. Rod says there needs to be someone who qualifies for catch history in open-access. Josh suggests giving permits to communities, instead of individuals. Rod suggests forming a fishing cooperative in Bodega right away in order to save the community and permits.

Dan H asked what he meant by the Morro Bay fishing community being the only one that stood up to dividing the fishing grounds to be managed cooperatively, not just by the PFMC. Maintaining infrastructure in these communities is imperative to preserve the small/community industry.

Developing relationships within the community and with regulatory authorities. Rod illustrated the example of the Moss Landing cooperative effort with the land and the fishing community there by sharing property, letting the processing plant stay open, and getting specimen info from the plant in return and keeping the research vessel there.

Rod suggested the SAC act as a think tank, and research base for these issues and preservation of the fishing community – not a decision maker.

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
March 13th, 2007
Minutes

Dan commented that fisherman are individualistic and like to be their own bosses, so joining together in a co-op isn't the first instinct of a fisherman. Josh commented on how terrible the discard regulatory method is that the PFMC came up with. He feels it is morally and scientifically wrong. Dan and Rod commented that a cooperative nucleus at a port can save a local fishery and fishing community, is possible, and have historically occurred in several CA ports.

Zeke discussed new markets and better marketing as a true solution and will produce a high value product. Dan and Zeke discussed restructuring of area management. Rod discussed a middle ground structure on how the community can work with the Council to divide the regulating. Split the difference between the PFMC being still in charge of mortality and the fishing community being in charge of the allocations.

Todd Steiner appreciates thinking outside the box, and looking at alternatives to the current management regime. Rod encourages everyone to look for oneself at the marketing suggestions and the complications that come along with implementing them.

Zeke and Rod discussed removing the ideology and re-examining the market mechanisms. They need to be very carefully structured. IFQ's can work but need to be carefully designed. The pros and cons of the IFQ systems in New Zealand were discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm

Action Items:

Motion

Todd Steiner moved to approve minutes as amended

Dan Cohen Seconded

All in favor

Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council Meeting Agenda
Bodega Marine Lab
December 6, 2006

Attachments

Attachment #1

March 13, 2007 Manager's Report – Dan Howard

LT Meeting – recently returned from our annual trip to Washington DC where we visit our Congressional representatives as they start their FY08 budget process. I met with Lynn Woolsey, and staff for Mike Thompson, Nancy Pelosi and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. This year, our priorities were to give them a heads up that our reauthorization language will likely get to them in the early summer and to discuss the current budget and programmatic impacts that will result. Even though we are in a continuing resolution, it looks like our operating budget will be reduced even further due to increased over head charges. With Lynn Woolsey and Mike Thompson, we discussed their boundary expansion bill.

Reauthorization of the Sanctuaries Act continues to be one of our programs top priorities. We expect that the language for reauthorization will clear Dept. of Commerce and get to Congress some time in early summer. It's important to get solid congressional support because once the bill goes to Congress, we have no control over changes that could occur.

Attachment #2

March 13, 2007 Education Report – Jennifer Stock

ACES Workshop: Animals in Curriculum Based Ecosystem Studies

Sonoma County Office of Education

August 1-3

Working on content and web interface for the public to watch the animals as they are being tracked

Student /Teach content being developed right now as well.

I'll present this project at CA Science Teachers Association in October this year.

New collaborations funded by BWET grants

- Romberg Tiburon Center-coastal oceanography workshop
- Save the Bay workshop-1/2 day sanctuary education programs
- Also will support a education cruise for a few select students/teachers from MMC program
- BWET grant for 2007/2008 projects took a cut as far as overall amount to be awarded

Radio show going well-upcoming shows through May

In a few months will be able to get stats on downloads from our archived shows page

Please keep your ideas coming on future topics

Handout....

Oakland Museum exhibits

We are waiting for final budget announcements for new exhibits at Oakland Museum. But its looking very promising. The museum is undergoing renovations on all wings and wants to include more CA marine environment habitats. We will be the lead on this new partnership

First round of signs are off to the printer, then will be installed later this summer.

Video- CB 15 min overview/video- Cordell Bank-Blue Water Oasis

Once its done we'd like to have a special showing, inviting Cordell Expedition divers together and having a special sneak preview event.

Attachment #3

Sanctuary Boundary Expansion Information – Tom Roth, Aid to Congresswoman Woolsey

Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey (D-Petaluma) and Congressmen Wayne Gilchrest (R-MD) introduced a bill on February 20, 2007 in the House of Representatives, to expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries.

The bill, supported by Senator Boxer, will be introduced as a companion bill in the Senate. It has been referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

The Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act would expand the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries from the current boundary at Bodega Bay to include the entire Sonoma Coast, and part of the Mendocino Coast to just north of Point Arena.

If passed, the legislation would protect the region's abundant marine life and critical habitats.

The Sonoma and Mendocino Coast is one of the most biologically productive regions in the world. The Point Arena upwelling center is the pump that enriches the marine food web from Point Arena south to San Francisco. This area of the coast is a destination feeding area for blue and humpback whales, important habitat for pelagic seabirds, an important segment of the gray whale migration corridor, provides feeding and haul out areas for seals and sea lions, provides substrate for expansive beds of bull kelp and all the associated organisms that make up a rich and diverse marine ecosystem.

The introduction of this bill is very timely for the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary's March 13 Advisory Council meeting, as Tom Roth, Senior Field Representative for Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey is on the agenda to speak to us about the boundary expansion legislation.

NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program welcomes the continued support and interest of the public and of Congresswoman Woolsey and Congressman Mike Thompson in the protection and management of our nation's marine resources. NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program is available and ready to assist Congress with this and any other legislation pertinent to our mission

Representative Lynn Woolsey (D-CA, 6th District) – Marin and Sonoma Coast up to the Gualala River

Representative Mike Thompson (D-CA 1st District) – Sonoma County to the Oregon border. So upper part of expansion is in Thompson's district.

-Bi-partisan legislation would protect entire Sonoma Coast and a portion of the Mendocino Coast from offshore gas and oil exploration and drilling.

Washington, DC -

"This legislation is an important step in protecting the natural beauty of our coastline," Woolsey said. "But this is more than protecting our environment - by expanding the marine sanctuary program we can better protect the Russian and Gualala River estuaries, and hundreds of local jobs that are dependent on the fishing, and tourist revenue that this region generates each year. The legislation also protects natural fish habitats, which will benefit the livelihoods of local commercial fishermen, and ensure plentiful stocks for recreational anglers."

With broad support from many of the region's local governments, the legislation also has the endorsement of leading environmental groups, and fishermen, including the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association, and the Bodega Bay Fishermen's Marketing Association.