



# CORDELL BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

## Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

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**November 17, 2011**

10:30 am – 4:30 pm

PRBO Conservation Science, Petaluma, CA

Note: The following meeting notes are an account of discussions at the Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

### **Welcome**

Advisory Council Vice Chair, George Clyde, called the meeting to order at 10:35am

### **Roll Call**

#### Members present:

Jaime Jahncke (Research)

George Clyde (Council Vice-Chair and Community-at-Large Marin)

Kevin Krick (Maritime Activities)

John Berge (Maritime Activities Alt.)

Bill Wolpert (Community-at-Large Sonoma)

Sarah Hameed (Community-at-Large Sonoma Alt.)

LT Elisa Garrity (USCG Living Marine Resources Officer)

Leslie Abramson (Gulf of the Farallones NMS)

#### CBNMS staff:

Dan Howard (Superintendent)

Kaitlin Graiff (Advisory Council Coordinator)

Jennifer Stock (Education and Outreach Specialist)

Michael Carver (Resource Protection Coordinator)

### **Review Agenda**

The agenda was unanimously approved

### **Review of June Minutes**

The June 9, 2011 meeting minutes were reviewed

George motioned to adopt June minutes as final, Jaime approved, Bill seconds, all in favor

***June minutes accepted as final***

### **Manager's Report (Dan Howard)**

- i. Please RSVP for meetings
- ii. Budget – do not have a budget and we are operating on a Continuing Resolution (CR) that authorizes funding for federal government through tomorrow, November 18<sup>th</sup>. For Cordell Bank NMS, the CR means funding at last year's level and HQ approval for all expenses. So far we have had travel caps and office supply caps established for field sites. Budget for facilities and exhibits has been zeroed by the House and cut from 16 million to 4.2 million in the Senate.

- iii. Vessel Speed Petition – NOAA’s response to the vessel speed restriction is in review at HQ. Initial letter acknowledging that Sanctuaries received the petition stated we would provide official response within 120 days which was last week so we are hopeful that HQ will finish their review soon. Dan can’t comment on official response until it is released.
- iv. Bill Douros is back as the West Coast Regional Director but has maintained some of his responsibilities as the Sanctuary Program’s deputy director. He will know by the end of November the status of the position and if the deputy position is vacant he will need to decide how to proceed.
- v. Advertising for vacant council seats. Open positions include: Fishing (primary and alternate), Education (primary and alternate), and Marin County at large (alternate).
- vi. Research Coordinator package has been sent to HQ
- vii. Dan attended a meeting with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Protected Resource Office staff, in Long Beach, to discuss ship strike issue. Meeting included NMFS, Sanctuaries West Coast region, Channel Islands, Gulf of the Farallones, and Cordell Bank staff. CINMS and NMFS agreed to remove the notice to mariners in Southern CA for the year. Criteria will be developed this winter for initiating future notice to mariners.
- viii. A second algal bloom was observed during the September ACCESS cruise. The algal species is different than the species in the late August bloom. It is suspected that it may have altered distribution of birds and whales which were abundant three weeks prior to bloom.
- ix. Dr Feeley’s lab completed a 2<sup>nd</sup> west coast ocean acidification cruise. Sampling occurred from Canada to Mexico. They encountered areas of hypoxic water, as well as areas on the shelf where aragonite saturation states were below one, indicating corrosive conditions. They sampled CalCOFI line 60 that passes through Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones sanctuaries.

#### **Research (Kaitlin Graiff)**

Beyond the Golden Gate Research Symposium was held on November 1st at the Golden Gate Club in San Francisco. The symposium is the only local forum to bring together Bay Area researchers. 160 people attended, 40 oral presentations and 25 posters were given. Cordell Bank presented an oral presentation on the results from the 2010 deep-sea coral cruise and a poster on the 2010 SCUBA diving project.

#### **Education Report (Jenny Stock)**

- i. Field seminar – limited observations on both boat trips
- ii. A previous Teacher at Sea completed a lesson plan that is available on the CBNMS website.
- iii. Ocean Currents – Laura Rogers-Bennett for CA Fish and Game and UC Davis-Bodega Marine Lab was a guest on Jenny’s radio show and spoke about the Sonoma coast red tide.
- iv. Oakland Museum – Director, Doug Long will attend the January advisory council meeting to discuss the Cordell Bank exhibit space.
- v. The West Coast Sanctuaries education coordinators held a meeting to discuss and plan next steps to address the education component of the West Coast National Marine Sanctuaries Ocean Acidification Plan. In partnership with MBARI, there will be an ocean acidification workshop in 2012 after the High CO<sub>2</sub> World conference in Monterey.  
Discussion: One of the dilemmas for the general public is that they don’t know what to do about ocean acidification. Involving the public is difficult and the public first needs to be convinced that ocean acidification and climate change are problems and will affect the ecosystem. George had the idea to bring the concept of ocean acidification to the general public by posting information at the oyster companies on Tomales Bay. Another idea was to partner with the CAMEOS program to introduce ocean acidification lesson plans.

## **Resource Protection (Michael Carver)**

- i. Conducting enforcement trainings with the United States Coast Guard (USCG)
- ii. Completed a cruise in Monterey Bay NMS using a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) to remove marine debris from the sanctuary.

## **Joint Working Group Updates**

### Vessel Strikes and Acoustic Impacts (Michael Carver)

- Working group consists of technical expert/advisors in policy and management, industry representatives, education and outreach, conservation, and research and monitoring
- Proposed analyses: AIS analysis of speed, acoustic profile of sanctuaries, maps of whale and vessel distribution in sanctuaries
- Port Access Route Study (PARS) recommendations are at headquarters in Washington DC, on track for implementation (but timing uncertain), public comment around May 2012, rulemaking process will trigger an Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation and a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) biological opinion. Joint working group (JWG) will consider an interim recommendation to the Advisory Councils to send the USCG a letter urging the initiation of rulemaking process
- JWG Meetings in 2012: January 19<sup>th</sup> (focus on acoustics), March 22<sup>nd</sup>, and May 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Vessel Spills (Jaime Jahncke)

- Purpose of working group is to aid sanctuary decision making process in the event of an oil spill. The working group has held two meetings; the first meeting reviewed the structure of responding to an oil spill and the second meeting focused on the properties and uses of different types of dispersants.
- Jaime showed video animations of predicted oil movement with or without the use of dispersants
- The working group completed a decision making exercise for the use of dispersants based on different scenarios. The working group was split on the decisions which has resulted in the group reassessing how they will proceed with a unified process to reach a consensus.

## **Public Comment**

### Leslie Adler Ivanbrook

How are dispersants applied? Answer: USCG C130 airplane. What is the process for filling out forms and responding to an oil spill? Answer: There is a well established process with the CA Department of Fish and Game and USCG with input from federal trustee agencies.

### Tom Lambert, President of the Cordell Marine Sanctuary Foundation

Recent accomplishments of the foundation: sponsored the Beyond the Golden Gate Research Symposium. The Foundation also has an underwriting spot on KWMR; the statement will be read three times per week for 6 months. The Foundation is also partnering with David McGuire, to produce a 6-8 minute long video about Cordell Bank and the video will also address the impact of ocean acidification.

## **Lunch**

**Presentation: A first look at deep-sea corals and sponges on the continental slope west of Cordell Bank** (Kaitlin Graiff)

**Presentation: 2011 ACCESS Review** (Jaime Jahncke)

La Nina was evident in 2011 as the water temperature was cold, but winds were weak. Cassin's Auklets had an above average breeding success and Common Murres had an average breeding success in 2011. By the end of next year, ACCESS will be added to the West Coast Ecosystem-Based Management Network.

Showed the online mapping tool: <http://accessoceans.org/index.php?page=data-management-and-sharing>

**Amendment to Council Charter: Member Term Limits** (George Clyde)

The section of the Council's charter describing non-governmental membership under the members, alternates, and officers section of the charter would be revised to include the following language:

(ii) Non-governmental members will not be selected to serve more than three consecutive terms on a sanctuary advisory council subject to the following provisions:

- Each term will be three years in length, with a total of nine years of service possible on the council.
- The incumbent non-governmental council members, who are part way through their term upon the signature of the council charter, will be counted as serving their first term for the purposes of this cap.
- The policy only applies to seats that go through the advertised, competitive process; this is not applicable to appointed governmental seats.
- The policy applies to the seat (e.g., conservation seat or research seat) and not the position. Example: An individual can serve one term as the conservation alternate and two terms as the conservation primary member, for a total of three terms. If qualified, the same individual may also apply for another seat on the council (e.g., public at large) once they are term-capped on the conservation seat.
- A limited number of waivers may be granted at the discretion of the ONMS Director for special circumstances as outlined in the national policy.

George motions to adopt new language for member term limits to the Council's charter, Bill approves, Jaime seconds, all in favor

***Council Charter Amendment accepted as final***

**Member Reports**

Leslies Abramson – update from the GFNMS advisory council: they are looking into how to involve youth on the council; the recommendation was to have a primary and alternate youth member with voting privileges. The council passed a resolution supporting boundary expansion and they have formed a fisheries policy committee. Sanctuary headquarters is writing a white paper on the purpose and goals of a National Advisory Council.

Jaime Jahncke – has been focusing on mouse eradication on the Farallon Islands.

Bill Wolpert – Petaluma City Council adopted the resolution supporting sanctuary expansion.

Sarah Hameed – Sonoma County Surf Rider is interested in the sanctuary expansion bill and wants to start a letter writing campaign with local politicians. They have also asked Surf Rider national for their support on the expansion bill. The red algal bloom event from August-September is having major effects on the Sonoma Coast. Invertebrates (white and red abalone) in tanks at the Bodega Marine Lab died. Abalone divers had mixed feelings about the closure of the abalone fishery. Harmful algal blooms (HABS)

and human health are a concern of surfers in Sonoma County as they see patterns in their health during HABS. As a result they plan to conduct surveys in surf shops and online to assess health of surfers during a bloom. Sonoma County Surf Rider is interested in adopting state parks (if they are closed) to keep them open for surfing access.

Kevin Krick– In July the International Maritime Organization (IMO) passed the first industry wide protocol for addressing carbon. More information can be found on the Marine Environment Protection Committee section of the IMO's website. North American Marine Environment Protection Association is holding a seminar on "Greening the Ocean Transportation System" (March 8<sup>th</sup>, San Francisco).

George Clyde– is looking for story ideas for his KWMR West Marin report; such as national issues that he can link back into the local West Marin area.

**Presentation: Maritime History of the Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones NMS** (Jim Delgado, Director MHP-ONMS)

Meeting Adjourned at 4:30 pm