

**Member / Alternate**

**Tourism**

Lauri Baker / Andrea Moe

**Business**

William Spicer / Capt. Manfred H.K. Aschemeyer

**Non-Consumptive Recreation**

W. Scott Dunn / Carolyn Greene

**Commercial Fishing**

Jim Marshall / Bruce Steele

**Recreational Fishing**

Capt. David Bacon / Merit McCrear

**Education**

/ Dan Powell

**Research**

Dr. Robert Warner / Dr. Bernardo Broitman

**Conservation**

Linda Krop / Greg Helms

**Public At-Large 1**

Phyllis Grifman /

**Public At-Large 2**

Eric Kett /

**Chumash Community**

Paulette Cabugos / Reggie Pagaling

**National Marine Fisheries Service**

Melissa Neuman / Elizabeth Petras

**National Park Service**

Russell Galipeau /

**U.S. Coast Guard**

CWO Ronald Fien / M. Scott Young

**Minerals Management Service**

Dr. Fred Piltz / Donna Schroeder

**U.S. Department of Defense**

Stephen Schwartz / Walter Schobel

**California Department of Fish and Game**

Marija Vojkovich / John Ugoretz

**California Resources Agency**

Brian Baird / Leah Akins

**California Coastal Commission**

Steve Hudson / Barbara Carey

**County of Santa Barbara**

Dianne Black / Michelle Gibbs

**County of Ventura**

Lyn Krieger / Marilyn Miller

**Channel Islands Nat'l Marine Sanctuary**

Chris Mobley

**Monterey Bay Nat'l Marine Sanctuary**

Paul Michel

**Gulf of the Farallones Nat'l Marine Sanctuary**

Maria Brown

**Chair**

Dianne Black

**Vice Chair**

Linda Krop

**Secretary**

Eric Kett

January 29, 2008

Dean Ernst von Weizsäcker

Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management  
2400 Bren Hall, University of California, Santa Barbara,  
Santa Barbara, California 93106-5131

**Re: Support for Proposed Student Group Project**

Dear Dean Weizsäcker:

The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (Sanctuary) Advisory Council is a 21-member body that brings together community members and representatives from various government agencies to advise the Sanctuary Superintendent and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration. The Sanctuary's mission is to provide long term protection to its nationally significant marine resources, while facilitating compatible human uses. We write to express enthusiastic support for a group project being submitted for consideration by Bren student Ms. Leslie Abramson and colleagues.

Following the recent unprecedented death of several blue whales within the Santa Barbara Channel, at least two of which were confirmed to have involved ship strikes, the Advisory Council unanimously agreed on January 25, 2008 to embark upon a public process aimed at addressing ship-strike threats to large cetaceans. Ms. Leslie Abramson has described to us a potential Bren Group Project to support Sanctuary staff and the Advisory Council process. Ms. Abramson has explained that the Bren Group Project would evaluate the emergency response system for whale fatalities, provide spatial analysis of whale and ship distribution and abundance, and recommend short and long-term policies to reduce threats. This project proposal is strongly supported by the Sanctuary Advisory Council because we believe it can make a significant contribution toward the Sanctuary's mission. Please consider our support, and we hope to soon be able to work closely with Leslie and her colleagues.

Sincerely,

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Dianne M. Black, Chair

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council