CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, July 15, 2022 9:00am - 12:30pm PT Online Webinar Session

Final Key Outcomes

This online public Advisory Council meeting was not video or audio recorded. To request a copy of any presentation slides, please contact <u>michael.murray@noaa.gov</u>.

Administrative Business and Announcements

- CINMS 2022 California Sea Grant State Fellow Samantha (Sam) Cook oriented Council members and attendees with instructions regarding webinar sign-in, audio and video set-up, and the protocol for effective participation in the virtual meeting.
- Chair Kristen Hislop called the meeting to order, provided opening remarks, and described the purpose and composition of the Advisory Council and its bi-monthly meetings.
- CINMS Deputy Superintendent for Programs Mike Murray confirmed online attendance, counting the presence of 20 Council members representing 16 out of 21 voting seats (Appendix A). In addition to Council members, 16 members of the public and five sanctuary staff attended the webinar.

May 20, 2022, Draft Key Outcomes

- The Council approved the draft key outcomes from the May 20, 2022, Advisory Council meeting. Stuart Kasdin (Public-At-Large seat) offered a motion to adopt the notes, which Michael Cohen (Tourism seat) seconded. Chair Hislop led a voice vote. There were no oppositions or abstentions to the vote.
- A copy of the May 2022 draft key outcomes is available upon request to <u>michael.murray@noaa.gov</u>, and will be posted on the <u>Sanctuary Advisory Council</u> <u>Meeting Notes web page</u> upon finalization.

Council Member Announcements

- Chair Hislop invited select government and community seats to provide Council member announcements in the form of extended reports.
 - On behalf of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) seat,
 CDFW Marine Habitat Conservation Program Manager Becky Ota shared an informational update on California's Marine Protected Area (MPA) Decadal Management Review (DMR) process, including development of a report that

CDFW will present to the Fish and Game Commission in early 2023 and ongoing community engagement strategies.

- An opportunity for Council questions and discussion followed Ota's presentation.
 - Capt. David Bacon (Recreational Fishing seat) shared the hope that CDFW is considering recommendations from recreational anglers during the DMR process. Ota stated that CDFW is aware of their recommendations.
 - Doug Williams (Public-At-Large seat) asked how CDFW is engaging with Spanish speakers in their outreach efforts. Ota mentioned CDFW is taking steps to provide Spanish translations of DMR materials. John Ugoretz (CDFW seat) added that CDFW is currently translating printed materials into Spanish, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and simplified and traditional Chinese.
 - Kasdin posed the question of whether CDFW is coordinating with the California State Lands Commission (SLC) regarding the decommissioning of oil platforms such as Platform Holly. Ota said that CDFW is in coordination with SLC and other state and federal agencies, but that oil platform decommissioning is outside the scope of the DMR.
 - CINMS Superintendent Chris Mobley requested additional information as to how CDFW is integrating and synthesizing the components of the DMR, and how the agency is analyzing socioeconomic outcomes. Ota replied that several reviewers are currently helping to provide input on CDFW's report to the Fish and Game Commission which, upon finalization, will present an opportunity to identify and address gaps in the long-term.
- Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) Paul Ricketson provided a briefing for the U.S. Coast Guard seat. CWO Ricketson began with marine environmental protection statistics for San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties from May to July 2022, then noted that U.S. Coast Guard enforcement is in the process of implementing geofencing to monitor vessel activity in and around MPAs. CWO Ricketson went on to state that commercial fishing vessels (CFVs) with expired decals have been spotted, and shared how to arrange free CFV dockside renewal exams (with Mr. Desillier at Peter.A.Desillier2@uscg.mil (North) and Mr. Nguyen at Marc.H.Nguyen@uscg.mil (South)). CWO Ricketson concluded with a reminder that Commander (CDR) Ariel Berrios has relieved Captain (CAPT) Justin Noggle as Response Department Head for the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Los Angeles-Long Beach, and that any correspondence for CAPT Noggle can be redirected to CDR Berrios at Ariel.Berrios@uscg.mil.

- Capt. Bacon began the Recreational Fishing seat report with a note about a recent successful veterans fishing charter out of Santa Barbara Landing organized by the Coastal Conservation Association of California and the local Elks Lodge, and recommended that the Advisory Council have a seat for veterans. Capt. Bacon described the upcoming subsistence fishing community event at Goleta Beach Pier, including a definition of subsistence fishers, how the event is in partnership with the Santa Barbara Channel MPA Collaborative and other agencies, and the free fishing gear that will be given to the first 40 participants.
 - Jaime Diamond (public attendee) emphasized the need for greater access to subsistence fishers that are at risk of hunger, and would have liked to see more outreach on local landings and waterfront tackle shops about events like the one Capt. Bacon shared.
- Council members then shared a variety of announcements from their respective groups, organizations, and agencies.
 - Ken Convery (National Park Service seat) shared that an October 2022 completion is expected for the Anacapa Wharf project which began in February 2022 and is intended to enhance safety and climate change resilience.
 - Michael Cohen (Tourism seat) reported a general peak in tourism since the start of the pandemic, but that a recent slowing of business at Santa Barbara Adventure Company could be an indicator of the current state of the economy. Cohen recommended snorkeling or kayaking trips as a way for people to get into their sanctuary. Cohen added that Santa Barbara Adventure Company is partnering with Island Packers on an educational video at Scorpion Anchorage.
 - Lindsay Bonito (California Natural Resources Agency seat) expanded upon the written announcements that the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) submitted in advance of the meeting (see Appendix B), including the request for proposals for projects that explore the role that MPAs may play in enhancing climate resilience, as well as the Ask The Researcher MPA monitoring webinar series that highlights recent MPA science. Bonito announced the release of OPC's draft equity plan and recent public review period, and added that OPC staff are reviewing public comments; the next draft is expected at the September 2022 OPC meeting. Bonito shared that OPC is working on a tribal engagement strategy that is open for a 90-day consultation period and is expected to be brought for final consideration at the December 2022 OPC meeting. Bonito concluded by saying that the *Pathways to 30x30* document has been finalized and is available online, and that OPC will be meeting with NOAA leadership to discuss strengthening biodiversity protections.
 - Phyllis Grifman (Research seat) shared how University of Southern California Sea Grant is engaged in strategic planning for 2023 through 2027 and that Council member input is welcome. Grifman also highlighted the recently

- announced marine debris funding opportunities, and offered to provide more information as needed.
- Written Council member announcements submitted prior to the meeting can be found in Appendix B.

Sanctuary Superintendent's Report

- Mobley began the sanctuary superintendent's report wishing the July 2022 meeting could have been held in a hybrid format, but that COVID-19 cases are currently surging. He hoped for the return of in-person Advisory Council meetings in September 2022 with a remote/hybrid option.
- Mobley marked the end of the fiscal year (FY) for federal agencies, and stated FY 2023 is unknown at the moment. Although he would like to see a budget increase, he noted that CINMS will be adaptive with what the agency receives.
- Mobley announced five new team members at or affiliated with CINMS: Laura Ingulsrud (Policy Analyst, West Coast Region, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries), Jai Ranganathan, Ph.D. (Marine Ecologist, Cardinal Point Captains, for CINMS), Michael Guzman (COAST Summer Intern, CINMS), Luke Dutton (Vessel Crew, Cardinal Point Captains, for CINMS), and Amber McEldowney (Program Associate, Blue Whales and Blue Skies Program, California Marine Sanctuary Foundation).
- Mobley shared how the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation recently recognized Capt. Bacon as CINMS Volunteer of the Year for 2021. Mobley stated that Capt. Bacon was selected as someone who has donated their time to provide advice on how sanctuaries can work better with recreational fishing communities, not overlook subsistence anglers, and care for productive fishing grounds in and around CINMS.
- Mobley encouraged Council members to share with their communities notice of the current recruitment period for four positions on the Advisory Council (Education seat member, Tourism seat alternate, Public At-Large seat alternate [1], and Commercial Fishing seat member), open through August 14, 2022.
- Mobley stated the International Maritime Organization (IMO) subcommittee recently
 approved extension of the Santa Barbara Channel's Traffic Separation Scheme and Area To
 Be Avoided, and that the final IMO action is expected November 2022 with changes taking
 effect May 2023. Mobley added that the Advisory Council's Marine Shipping Working
 Group recommended these amendments in 2016.
- Mobley shared information about the new Bering Sea sanctuary nomination accepted by the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS); the area within Alagum Kanuux (Heart Of The Ocean) surrounds the islands of St. Paul and St. George, and supports globally significant populations of marine mammals, seabirds, and fish, as well as ecological and cultural keystone species.
- Mobley explained the timeline and potential outcomes of the proposed designation of Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary in the Hudson Canyon area approximately 100

miles off the coast of New York and New Jersey; NOAA is accepting public comments on the Notice of Intent through August 8, 2022, and a sanctuary designation would conserve the area's ecosystems, promote sustainable use, and create new opportunities for scientific research, ocean education, and recreation.

- Mobley reminded Council members of the new national marine sanctuary stamp series that will be released on August 5, 2022, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the National Marine Sanctuary System.
- Mobley detailed the recent visit of Ocean Guardian Ambassadors from Adams Elementary School to Santa Cruz Island during which participants hiked to Cavern Point and removed non-native plants in collaboration with Channel Islands Restoration and the National Park Service.
- Mobley highlighted a new ONMS web story interview with anthropologist Linda Bentz on Chinese American contributions to the history, culture, and communities of Southern California.
- Mobley directed Council members to a new ONMS report titled "Our Blue Legacy" that traces the history of the National Marine Sanctuary System and its impacts over the past 50 years.
- Mobley invited Guzman to present an upcoming youth fishing trip as part of the summer Get Into Your Sanctuary celebration in partnership with Reel Guppy Outdoors. Guzman explained the trip is intended to provide local youth and their families with an educational fishing experience in the sanctuary. Guzman acknowledged Reel Guppy Outdoors as a program that empowers participants with skills to enjoy local waters and beaches while promoting stewardship of natural resources.
- Online resources mentioned in the sanctuary superintendent's report can be found in Appendix C.

Cruise Ship Visits to Santa Barbara (Part 2)

- As a follow-up to Part 1 of this agenda item at the May 2022 Advisory Council meeting, Santa Barbara Channelkeeper Science and Policy Director, and Council member, Ben Pitterle (Recreation (non-consumptive) seat) revisited key points and presented updated information on Santa Barbara Channelkeeper's engagement with cruise ships. In addition to revised cruise ship scenario estimates for air emissions, Pitterle shared a new report that examines cruise ship waste streams, as well as 2021 Friends of the Earth report card grades for sewage, air pollution, and water quality.
- A continuation of Council member questions and discussion from this and Pitterle's May 2022 presentation followed, during which Council members and select public attendees considered the extent to which possible impacts might affect CINMS waters and resources, the Council's role in commenting to the Santa Barbara Harbor Commission's Cruise Ship Subcommittee, and the dual priorities of supporting tourism while protecting the marine environment.

- The Council approved formation of a subcommittee to develop a draft Council comment letter to the Santa Barbara Harbor Commission's Cruise Ship Subcommittee that will be acted on at the September 2022 Advisory Council meeting. Pitterle offered a motion in support of subcommittee formation, which Kasdin seconded. Chair Hislop led a voice vote. There were no oppositions to the vote, while Ugoretz abstained.
 - Chair Hislop, Cohen, Kasdin, Giles Pettifor (Business seat), Pitterle, and Cliff Rodrigues (Education seat) volunteered to join the Advisory Council's cruise ship subcommittee

Public Comment

- Several members of the public provided comments and remarks for guest speakers and CINMS staff.
 - Diamond provided an introduction as Santa Barbara Landing's manager, which is under new ownership by businesses that operate out of the facility and offer dive, kayaking, and whale watching activities, among others. Diamond expressed excitement about being an active partner with the sanctuary.
 - Russell Galipeau offered congratulations to Capt. Bacon for the 2021 Volunteer of the Year recognition. As a professor at California State University, Channel Islands, Galipeau shared the desire to continue engagement with Council members for a course that trains students in planning scenarios.
 - David Lopez praised Diamond for supporting outreach to veterans and other communities that apply best practices for species protection when they are aboard fishing charters like the one Capt. Bacon highlighted during Council member announcements.

Diversification of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

- Cook characterized the long-range goal of, and strategies for, expanding diversity and inclusion of the Advisory Council, and shared ONMS' recent assessment of barriers to voluntary participation.
- National Advisory Council Coordinator Katie Denman joined Council members as they
 identified approaches to broadening and promoting inclusion, and shared examples of
 diversity efforts from their respective institutions and organizations.
- The Council approved formation of a subcommittee to review and develop relevant recommendations for Advisory Council recruitment. Chair Hislop led a voice vote. There were no oppositions or abstentions to the vote.
 - Chair Hislop, Capt. Bacon, Convery, Grifman, and Pettifor volunteered to join the Advisory Council's diversity and inclusion subcommittee.

Advisory Council Meeting Planning

- Cook reviewed results from a recent survey to Council members regarding preferences for a future hybrid meeting format amid ongoing risks posed by the pandemic. Select highlights included a preference for in-person attendance, earlier and shorter meetings, and implementation of several COVID-19 risk mitigation measures.
- An opportunity for Council questions and discussion followed Cook's presentation.

Close-Out and Upcoming 2022 Advisory Council Meetings

- Chair Hislop provided closing remarks and reminded attendees of the upcoming 2022 Advisory Council meeting schedule, as follows:
 - o Friday, September 16 (Santa Barbara Zoo with hybrid option, or online)
 - Friday, November 18 (Ventura County with hybrid option, or online)

Appendix A. Advisory Council online meeting attendance, July 15, 2022

Name	Advisory Council Seat	Attendance
Michael Cohen	Tourism member	Yes
Morgan Coffey	Tourism alternate	Yes
Ben Pitterle	Non-Consumptive Recreation member	Yes
Anthony (Tony) Knight, Ph.D.	Non-Consumptive Recreation alternate	Yes
Giles Pettifor	Business member	Yes
Paul Amaral	Business alternate	Yes
Kristen Hislop	Conservation member	Yes
Samantha Macks Franz	Conservation alternate	No
Kim Selkoe, Ph.D.	Commercial Fishing member	No
Timothy Athens	Commercial Fishing alternate	No
Capt. David Bacon	Recreational Fishing member	Yes
Merit McCrea	Recreational Fishing alternate	No
Cliff Rodrigues	Education member	Yes
Andrea Mills	Education alternate	No
Phyllis Grifman	Research member	Yes
Robert Miller, Ph.D.	Research alternate	No
Douglas Williams, Ph.D.	Public-At-Large member	Yes
Mary Byrd	Public At-Large alternate	No
Stuart Kasdin, Ph.D.	Public-At-Large member	Yes
Amanda Allen	Public At-Large alternate	Yes
Eva Pagaling	Chumash Community member	No
Tano Cabugos	Chumash Community alternate	No
Daniel Studt	National Marine Fisheries Service member	Yes
<vacant></vacant>	National Marine Fisheries Service alternate	n/a
Ken Convery	National Park Service member	Yes
<vacant></vacant>	National Park Service alternate	n/a
CDR Ariel Berrios	U.S. Coast Guard member	No
LT Lelea Lingo	U.S. Coast Guard alternate	No
Donna Schroeder	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management member	No
Jeremy Potter	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management alternate	No
Adam Melerski	Dept. of Defense member	Yes
Stephen Duboyce	Dept. of Defense alternate	No
Carlos Mireles	California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife member	No
John Ugoretz	California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife alternate	Yes
Jenn Eckerle	California Natural Resources Agency member	No
Lindsay Bonito	California Natural Resources Agency alternate	Yes

Cassidy Teufel	California Coastal Commission member	No
Jacqueline Phelps	California Coastal Commission alternate	No
Errin Briggs	County of Santa Barbara member	Yes
David Villalobos	County of Santa Barbara alternate	No
Jed Chernabaeff	County of Ventura member	Yes
<vacant></vacant>	County of Ventura alternate	n/a
Lisa Wooninck	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary member (non-voting)	No
Karen Grimmer	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary alternate (non-voting)	No
Maria Brown	Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary member (non-voting)	No
Brian Johnson	Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary alternate (non-voting)	No
Chris Mobley	Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary member (non-voting)	Yes
Mike Murray (staff)	Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary alternate (non-voting)	Yes
	Total number of individual SAC members (<u>voting</u> seats only)	20
	Number of voting seats represented (out of 21)	16

Appendix B. Written Council member announcements, submitted as of July 14, 2022

Name: Lindsay Bonito

Seat: California Natural Resources Agency

Announcement subject: Ocean Protection Council updates

Relevant links: (links embedded below)

OPC Meeting Updates

OPC had their first in-person meeting in Sacramento where the Council approved a number of great projects including updating sea-level rise guidance, market squid fisheries management plan development, wetland restoration and a discussion about kelp forest restoration. Meeting materials can be found on OPC's meeting webpage.

2022 MPA and Climate Solicitation is Now Open – \$2 Million Available

On July 1, OPC released a request for proposals (RFP) for projects that explore the role that MPAs may play in enhancing climate resilience. \$2 million is available through this RFP to support research-based projects that advance our understanding of this relatively unexplored question. Specific areas of interest to OPC include: characteristics of climate refugia, vulnerability assessment, distribution of habitats and species under various climate scenarios, and social resilience outcomes for coastal communities. Letters of intent are due on July 29; more information is available on OPC's funding webpage.

MPA monitoring webinar series: Ask the Researcher

Join us as we unpack the results of the latest state-funded MPA long-term monitoring projects through an 8-part virtual summer webinar series. Participants are invited to ask questions directly to the researchers to understand the science informing the management of California's MPA Network. The webinar series is hosted by OPC in partnership with CDFW and supported by Strategic Earth Consulting. Participation by all members of the public is encouraged. No registration is required – please visit OPC's webpage to learn more join the meeting.

OPC Equity Plan

In May 2022, OPC released a <u>draft Equity Plan</u> for a 45-day public review and comment period. The public comment period closed on June 23; feedback and outcomes from members of the public will inform the final proposed Equity Plan, which OPC staff anticipate bringing to the Council for consideration and possible adoption at its September 14 meeting. At that meeting, OPC will also consider funding for a dedicated Environmental Justice Small Grants Program.

Tribal Engagement Strategy

On July 6, 2022, OPC released its draft Tribal Engagement Strategy for a 90-day tribal consultation period. The draft Strategy, which was developed by OPC staff based on early consultations and listening sessions with coastal tribes held in fall 2021, is intended to provide a

framework for enhanced partnership between OPC and tribes on coastal and ocean issues. OPC looks forward to consulting with tribes on the draft, and anticipates bringing a final Strategy, developed in meaningful partnership with tribes, to the Council for consideration and possible adoption at its December 8 meeting. OPC will also consider additional funding for the Tribal Marine Stewards Network and a dedicated Tribal Small Grants program at its September 14 meeting.

30x30

On April 22, California released the final draft of <u>Pathways to 30x30: Accelerating Conservation of California's Nature</u>, which details the state's approach to conserving 30% of our lands and coastal waters by 2030. Moving forward, OPC will be working with California Native American tribes, the research community, other state and federal agencies, and coastal stakeholders to conserve an additional half a million acres of coastal waters by implementing science-based protections that address the most serious threats to coastal and ocean biodiversity. As a first step, in the coming weeks, OPC will meet with NOAA leadership to discuss strengthened biodiversity protections for National Marine Sanctuaries in California. Additionally, OPC will serve on the state's new 30x30 Coordinating Committee to support integration of the coast and ocean into 30x30 implementation efforts.

Kelp Restoration

An unprecedented partnership for kelp restoration between OPC, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Reef Check California, The Nature Conservancy, and North Coast communities has concluded with the removal of nearly 50,000 pounds of purple urchin and positive signs of kelp forest recovery. In 2020, OPC approved funding to support removal of purple urchins in support of bull kelp restoration at two sites in Mendocino County: Noyo Bay and Albion Cove. This project directly engaged commercial red urchin fishermen, whose livelihoods have been significantly impacted by kelp collapse. Over the course of two years, fishermen were able to successfully reduce urchin densities below the threshold expected to facilitate a shift from urchin barren back to kelp forest. Urchin removals appear to have had a positive impact on kelp recovery: scientific monitoring documented a limited, but statistically significant increase in bull kelp density at the Noyo Bay restoration site. Project outcomes will directly inform resource managers' efforts to protect and restore threatened kelp forests across the state. The final report is available here: Restoration of Northern California Bull Kelp Forests (PDF).



Photo: Mike Esgro/Ocean Protection Council

Name: Daniel Studt Seat: NOAA Fisheries

Announcement: Identifying Aquaculture Opportunity Areas in Federal Waters of the Southern

California Bight

Narrative: NOAA Fisheries has published a <u>Notice of Intent</u> (NOI) in the Federal Register announcing the preparation of the Southern California AOA PEIS. As part of this process, we are requesting comments through July 22, 2022 concerning the scope of the proposed action; its potential impacts to the natural and human environment; means for avoiding, minimizing, or mitigating potential impacts; the range of preliminary alternatives proposed in this notice; and any additional reasonable alternatives that should be considered within the Southern California Bight. For information on how to comment on the NOI, please see the <u>public scoping meetings</u> <u>page</u>.

Announcement: <u>Draft 2022-2024 Climate Science Strategy Regional Action Plans</u>

Narrative: NOAA Fisheries is seeking input on Draft 2022-2024 Climate Science Regional Action Plans (RAPs). The RAPs have been developed by NOAA Fisheries Science Centers and Regional Offices with input from many sources, including public input on how to make fisheries and protected resources more resilient to climate change. The plans identify actions that each region intends to take over the next three years (2022 - 2024) to address regional climate-science needs and meet the objectives of our <u>Climate Science Strategy</u>. We are seeking input on the draft 2022-2024 RAPs until July 29, 2022. <u>Review the draft RAPs and find the public comment portal here</u>.

Announcement: New Draft Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy

Narrative: NOAA Fisheries recognizes that government programs and policies can and must advance environmental justice and the equitable distribution of services. We have developed a draft <u>Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy</u> to guide us in our goal to serve all communities more equitably and effectively. In addition to accepting written comments until August 19th, we are hosting four webinars on the strategy presented on June 21st, June 30th, and July 19th, where comments will be accepted. <u>Learn more about the draft Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy and how you can provide comments</u>.

Appendix C. Online resources mentioned in the July 15, 2022, sanctuary superintendent's report

Volunteer Recognition from the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation: https://marinesanctuary.org/volunteers-of-the-year-for-2022/

Now Accepting Applications for 4 Advisory Council Positions!: https://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/apply.html

New Sanctuary Nomination: Alaĝum Kanuux̂ (the Heart of the Ocean): https://aleut.com/prime/, https://aleut.com/prime/,

Proposed Designation of Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary: https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/hudson-canyon/

National Marine Sanctuaries Stamp Series:

 $\frac{https://about.usps.com/newsroom/national-releases/2022/0622ma-explore-the-beauty-of-marine-sanctuaries-through-forever-stamps.htm}{}$

Channel Islands visit for Ocean Guardian Ambassadors from Adams Elementary School: https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean_guardian/

Linda Bentz Interview: New Web Feature on Chinese Fishermen and Channel Islands: https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/news/jun22/chinese-american-history-and-culture.html

Our Blue Legacy: Fifty Years of Impact of the National Marine Sanctuary System: https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/50/our-blue-legacy.html

Get Into Your Sanctuary Summer Campaign: https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/visit/givs.html