

Joint Annual Meeting of the  
Olympic Coast Intergovernmental Policy Council (IPC)  
and  
Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (AC)  
Meeting Notes

January 22, 2016

Quileute Tribal Administrative Office- west wing  
La Push, WA

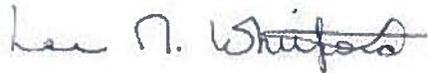
Reviewed by OCNMS Superintendent:



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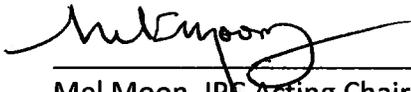
Carol Bernthal, Superintendent

Approved by Council Chairs:



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Lee Whitford, AC Chair



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Mel Moon, IPC Acting Chair

**Olympic Coast Intergovernmental Policy Council (IPC) Representatives in Attendance:**

Mel Moon\* (Quileute Tribe, Acting IPC Chair), Joe Schumacker\* (Quinault Indian Nation, staff), David Hudson\* (Hoh Tribe, IPC Representative), Joe Gilbertson\* (Hoh Tribe, staff), Jennifer Hagen\* (Quileute Tribe, staff), Ray Colby (Makah Tribe, staff), Aaron Parker (Makah Tribe, staff)

\*indicates IPC or tribal staff that also serve on the Advisory Council as either primary or alternate members.

**Advisory Council (AC) Members/Alternates in Attendance:** Lee Whitford (Education, Chair), Heather Reed (WDFW, Vice-Chair), George Hart (US Navy, Secretary), Jan Newton (Research), Bob Boekelheide (Citizen at Large), Roy Morris (Citizen at Large, Alternate), John Veentjer (Marine Industry), Joel Kawahara (Fishing), Tom Burlingame (Fishing Alternate), Steve Shively (Tourism and Economic Development), Casey Dennehy (MRC), Rich Osborne (MRC Alternate), Mike Barton (Education Alternate), Mark Ozias (Clallam County), Jessi Doerpinghaus (WDFW Alternate), Jennifer Hennessey (WDOE), Katrina Lassiter (WDNR), John Stadler (NOAA-NMFS), Steve Fradkin (NPS-ONP), Captain Brian Gilda (USCG)

**Presenters and Others in Attendance:** Lonnie Foster (Quileute Tribe), Beverly Loudan (Quileute Tribe), Katie Krueger (Quileute Tribe), Josh Etherton (Quileute Tribe), Frank Hanson (ONRC), Brandi Bednarik (Grays Harbor Historic Seaport Authority), Roxi Underwood (Grays Harbor Historic Seaport Authority)

**NOAA/OCNMS Staff in Attendance:** Carol Bernthal, George Galasso, Nancy Wright, Justin Ellis, Alisha Friel, Nicole Harris, Rebecca Lewis, Karlyn Langjahr (OCNMS)

**Welcome/Opening Remarks**

Mel Moon, Director of Quileute Natural Resources, welcomed meeting participants on behalf of the Quileute Tribe and Vice-Chairman Rio Jaime. Lonnie Foster, Vice-Chair for the Quileute Fishing Committee, then gave an introduction, expressing his gratitude for the participation on topics that are of mutual interest to the Intergovernmental Policy Council and the sanctuary. Dave Hudson shared a song for the group.

Lee Whitford thanked Quileute Tribe for their hospitality and for hosting the joint meeting, and all members for their attendance and participation. On behalf of the Advisory Council, Lee noted the significance and uniqueness of the IPC and their work, bringing together tribal, state, and federal governments. She highlighted the need to ensure proper recognition and support from NOAA to the IPC and the contributions toward the OCNMS Management Plan.

Mel Moon, on behalf of IPC Chair Ed Johnstone, shared how the IPC has served as an ongoing forum for strengthening its relationship to and increasing its communication with Olympic

Coast National Marine Sanctuary. He looks forward to the continuing collaboration with the sanctuary promoting science and management of their shared natural resources.

### **IPC AREAS OF INTEREST**

Joe Schumacker, on behalf of the Intergovernmental Policy Council, summarized current interests:

- Continuing the momentum on the Habitat Framework, developing an ecosystem classification scheme for the ocean area off the outer coast. It utilizes the Coastal Marine Ecological Classification System (CMECS) and is a very involved process with many partners.
- IPC support and funding, which is vital to maintain the body's usefulness for policy recommendations from co-managers of the resources within the sanctuary. This includes support from the experts involved in processes such as Habitat Framework. They expressed interest in participating in the annual budget cycle of OCNMS working with the Sanctuary Advisory Council. Currently the IPC is funded through NOAA with funds administered by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. IPC is seeking more long-term funding sources.
- Participation in the selection of the new OCNMS research coordinator by identifying two IPC representatives to serve on a hiring panel convened by NOAA. Ray Colby noted that Makah Tribe nominated Steve Joner to participate in the review committee.
- Support for the sanctuary's seasonal oceanographic monitoring program.

### **OCNMS ADVISORY COUNCIL AREAS OF INTEREST**

Lee Whitford gave an overview of changes and activities of the Advisory Council in 2015. New member appointments included Jessi Doerpinghaus as the WDFW alternate, Captain Brian Gilda as the U.S. Coast Guard primary and Commander Aaron Meadows-Hills as alternate, Christopher Krembs as the WDOE alternate, Josh Peters as the WDNR alternate, and Commissioner Bill Peach as the Clallam County representative. Newly selected council members in 2015 included Jodie Toft as the Conservation primary and Steve Shively as the Tourism and Economic Development primary. Active members who left the council in 2015 include Captain Nathan Knapp (USCG), Eric Delvin (Conservation), Les Bolton (Tourism and Economic Development) and Melissa Williams (Education alternate).

Council actions taken in 2015:

- A letter of support for Intergovernmental Policy Council's Habitat Framework Initiative
- Recommendations for priority locations for NOAA-OCNMS Education kiosks
- Final report and recommendation regarding establishing a Youth Seat on OCNMS Advisory council based on a trial year of it Youth Participation Program at AC meetings
- Final report and recommendations by the Oceanographic Monitoring Group assessing the most effective and efficient oceanographic moorings deployment under four budget scenarios

- Final report and recommendations by the Climate Change Working Group regarding priorities for sanctuary climate-related activities

Council members who presented at meetings in 2015 included: Jennifer Hennessey on Marine Spatial Planning updates; Christopher Krembs on the Eyes Over Puget Sound program; Heather Reed on WDFW's Nearshore Rockfish Tagging project (with colleague Brad Speidel); Joe Schumacker on Intergovernmental Policy Council Habitat Framework Initiative; and Steve Shively on Olympic Culinary Loop. Outside presenters included: Gus Gates of Surfrider Foundation on the Washington Recreational Use Survey and Marine Spatial Planning; Jon Schmidt of WA CoastSavers reporting on his program and future direction; Yongwen Gao of Makah Fisheries on Detecting Ocean Acidification in Neah Bay; Dr. Chris Harvey of NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center on Ecosystem Indicators for Marine Spatial Planning; Dr. Julia Parris of University of Washington on COASST program and the winter Cassin's Auklet Mortality Event; Scott Ferguson of WDOE on the Washington Marine and Rail Oil Transportation Study; Dr. Nancy Messmer on Pacific Basin Marine Debris Cleanup efforts; Bob Leeworthy and team on Socioeconomic Profiles and Economic Valuation of Recreation; Dayna Matthews on NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement; Nir Barnea on NOAA Marine Debris Program and Japanese Tsunami Marine Debris Monitoring, Leila Hatch and Kathy Broughton on Ocean Noise in a NOAA and Sanctuaries context; and Stephanie Moore of NOAA-NWFSC on West Coast Harmful Algal Blooms.

Looking into 2016, Lee noted that education and outreach will be a priority topic in order to increase awareness, partnerships, recognition, and ultimately funding for OCNMS. The Advisory Council will assist in the development and planning of an Ocean Acidification Sentinel Site workshop to help OCNMS become a Sentinel Site in the future. The AC Work Plan proposes council actions to continue supporting the OCNMS Management Plan, opportunities for travel and tourism/voluntourism, ecosystem indicators for the sanctuary, providing input to OCNMS as it rolls out its new website, and more. Topics of interest for the Advisory Council 2016 include small vessel maritime and environmental safety, staying updated on IPC Habitat Framework initiative, ship strikes of marine mammals, acoustics, coastal fisheries, oil spill risks and vessel traffic. The council will also track past topics as needed, such as marine debris, Essential Fish Habitat, the Lake Ozette Sockeye Salmon, U.S. Navy activities, and OCNMS's Area to be Avoided (ATBA).

Carol clarified that OCNMS is committed to involving two representatives of the IPC, along with an AC Research member, to participate in the recruitment of the Research Coordinator. She reiterated the importance of progress on ocean acidification, and the mutual interest for both the AC and IPC.

**Public Comment** – Katie Krueger supports the idea of exploring commonality OCNMS has with other sanctuaries, particularly with the West Coast Region (WCR) and the shared California Current Ecosystem. As a grant writer, she finds it important to identify potential pilot project ideas that could benefit the entire WCR while leveraging funds.

## **AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST BETWEEN IPC AND AC**

Lee suggested that the issue of funding and financial support is of critical interest to both IPC and sanctuary programs. OCNMS will need to seek outside funding and grants in the future as it has been operating under the lowest funding level of budget scenarios laid out in the Management Plan. Participants discussed ways to strengthen research and collaborations, for example expanding the types of sensors on mooring buoys in sanctuary waters to better capture ocean acidification, hypoxia, and other data useful for forecast modeling. Members of IPC and AC would like to keep communication lines open regarding other topics of interest, which will be beneficial to both groups. Some of those topics include: the next OCNMS Condition Report, moving forward on OCNMS as Sentinel Site for ocean acidification, OCNMS continuing staff support for IPC Habitat Framework, updating ecosystem indicators for the sanctuary, seasonal oceanographic moorings and research/monitoring, and education/outreach.

Discussions also included common concern for the condition and status of natural resources given recent fisheries and crab closures domoic acid toxicity. While there are two sites moving toward sanctuary designation in the Wisconsin and Maryland based on cultural preservation and shipwrecks, there was concern with how other sanctuaries' base funding would be impacted. There was some interest in exploring ways for the two groups to strategize acquiring funding, aligning budget cycles, and strengthening the messaging for grant proposals and other funding sources. The two councils reiterated the value of collaboration and thinking creatively to reach the largest impact.

The joint IPC/AC annual meeting concluded at 12:30pm.