

OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

OCNMS Advisory Council Meeting
February 10, 2012

Emergency Operations Center, Room 70
Clallam County Courthouse (basement)
223 East 4th St, Port Angeles, WA

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
NOAA, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
115 E. Railroad Avenue, Suite 301
Port Angeles, WA 98362-2925

Reviewed by OCNMS Superintendent



Carol Bernthal, Superintendent

Approved by AC Chair



Myles (Chip) Boothe, Chair

Advisory Council (AC) Members/Alternates in Attendance: Chip Boothe (WDOE, Chair), Brady Scott (WDNR, Vice Chair), Ellen Matheny (Education, Secretary), Jan Newton (Research), Tom Mumford (Research Alternate), Jennifer Hagen (Quileute Tribe Alternate), George Hart (U.S. Navy), John Veentjer (Marine Business/Ports/Industry), Frank Holmes (Marine Business/Ports/Industry Alternate), Sandra Brooke (Conservation), Joel Kawahara (Commercial Fishing), Brian Santman (Commercial Fishing Alternate), Rebecca Post (WDOE Alternate), Heather Reed (WDFW), Kevin Ryan (USFWS), Jody Kennedy (Chamber of Commerce/Tourism/Recreation), Les Bolton (Chamber of Commerce/Tourism/Recreation Alternate), CAPT Mike Gardiner (U.S. Coast Guard), CDR Scott Stewart (U.S. Coast Guard Alternate), Bob Boekelheide (Citizen at Large), Roy Morris (Citizen at Large Alternate), Frank Shipley (USGS), Steve Fradkin (ONP Alternate), Mike Doherty (Local Government, Clallam County)

NOAA/OCNMS Staff in Attendance: Carol Bernthal, George Galasso, Liam Antrim, Jacqueline Laverdure, Bob Steelquist

Members of the Public in Attendance: Nir Barnea (NOAA Marine Debris Program), Ian Miller (WA Sea Grant), Hannah McNabb, Peter Craig, Karen Matsumoto (Seattle Aquarium)

ACTION ITEMS:

- Jan N. will serve as point of contact during formation of a Moorings Working Group.
- Chip B. or Rebecca P. will contact Chris ___ at WDOE re: Moorings Working Group participation.
- AC Coordinator will send new AC members the annual IPC report from 2011 and the AC/IPC roles crosswalk document.
- Jennifer H. will check on facility availability for an AC meeting in La Push.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

Chip welcomed new and returning members, provided a brief summary of Council approach to business, asked individuals to introduce themselves, and called for comments on the draft agenda. Agenda modifications requested were updates on the *General M.C. Meigs*, sanctuary linkages to the Ozette sockeye recovery planning, and revised sanctuary overflight regulations. *Joel moved to accept the agenda as modified; Rebecca seconded; adopted by consensus.*

New AC Members

First, departing AC members were recognized and thanked *in absentia* – Terrie Klinger, John Calambokidis, and Fayette Krause. Returning members were acknowledged – Frank Holmes, John Veentjer, and Jody Kennedy.

New members introduced themselves. Brian Santman (Commercial Fishing alternate) has lived in the Forks-Beaver area since 1976, worked since 1990 as harvest diver for sea urchins and sea cucumbers in WA and AK, and has firsthand experience working in local waters including

derelict fishing gear removal projects. Sandra Brooke (Conservation) is Director of Coral Conservation at Marine Conservation Institute since the end of 2008, and served on SE Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Coral Advisory Panel for 8 years. Jan Newton (Research) is an oceanographer at University of Washington, directs the NANOOS program, and wants to help provide good scientific information to the AC. Tom Mumford (Research alternate) is a phycologist recently retired from WA Department of Natural Resources, with experience monitoring kelp, eelgrass and other near-shore habitats, has interest in assisting sanctuary with indicator species, adaptive management and monitoring. Frank Shipley (USGS) explained USGS has a regional office in Seattle and multiple science centers, where work is not regulatory or policy but science oriented. His current focus on inter-disciplinary ecosystem studies to support management and policy. Les Bolton (Tourism/Recreation alternate) is Executive Director of Grays Harbor Historical Seaport, which owns and operates 2 tall ships, an educational facility, and is in the process of acquiring 28 acres on Chehalis River waterfront. Les is involved with Pacific NW Maritime Heritage Council, Tall Ships America, Heritage Caucus, and Grays Harbor Economic Development Council. Heather Reed (WA Department of Fish and Wildlife) from the Montesano office works as a policy coordinator and is involved with Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC), as well as recreational groundfish and halibut and commercial crab fisheries. Three additional new members who were not able to attend were mentioned Lora Leschner (Conservation alternate), Herb Welch (Local Government, Grays Harbor County), and Carolyn Winters (U.S. Navy alternate). Members joined Carol in reciting the Council's Oath of Office.

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No adjustments were offered, no discussion was required. *Jennifer moved to accept the meeting minutes; Brady seconded; accepted by consensus.*

Superintendent's Report

Carol referenced the February 2012 OCNMS Office Report, which had been distributed by email, and provided highlights.

- The Outer Coast Intergovernmental Policy Council met February 8, where discussion focused on FY2012 annual operating plan for OCNMS, the First Peoples Conference on Climate Change planned for July in Washington, D.C., and a letter of support for oceanographic monitoring off Washington's outer coast.
- The AC Charter was finalized in 2011 but consideration of a young adult or youth seat was pending a report from the Office of Management and Budget.
- The 2011 OCNMS Implementation Report is a new method for summarizing accomplishments toward management plan implementation.
- All were encouraged to complete the poll distributed by Lauren Garske to assess use of scientific information in management decision making by OCNMS.
- The OCNMS Management Plan Review Team was given an award for exceptional teamwork, recognition that came with assistance from the AC.

- PFMC's Essential Fish Habitat Review Committee, with Ed Bowlby representing West Coast sanctuaries, is receiving new information and considering whether to accept nominations for designation additions and changes.
- OCNMS's new web site is launched.
- A Coastal America Partnership Award was given to the Seattle Aquarium and OCNMS for ocean literacy programming.
- Marine debris has received lots of recent public attention. OCNMS' role will be enhanced monitoring of beach debris, outreach programming, and co-sponsorship of the annual coastal cleanup planned for April 21 (www.coastsavers.org)
- West Coast sanctuaries' overflight regulations have been published and serve to minimize disturbance to seabirds and marine mammals in the coastal zone. For OCNMS, the zone and altitude are unchanged but wording modifications support the Federal Aviation Administration printing these regulations on aeronautical charts. Frank S. mentioned a concern about overflight regulations limiting spill response actions. However, environmental emergencies, search and rescue, and enforcement flights are exempted from this regulation.

Sanctuary Updates

Data Management Working Group - Jennifer Hagen provided a brief update. Nancy Wright (OCNMS Geographer) provides staff support for the working group. Data collected by OCNMS and brief project summaries have been posted on the new OCNMS website, starting with 2011 and working backwards. OCNMS will continue adding project summaries and data to the website. The working group will check progress and provide advice on an "as needed" basis.

Climate Change Site Scenario – Ian Miller, WA Sea Grant, who is coordinating report development, provided a briefing and outline for the report. A working group meets regularly and has begun drafting sections of the report. The major report sections are physical effects, implications to biological communities, and adaptation strategies for OCNMS. Portions of the report will be available for review in late spring, with a final report completed by the end of summer 2012. Carol explained that this site assessment is the first stage of a Climate Smart Sanctuaries program. The report initially will inform outreach and education efforts, and later will be used to evaluate ecosystem monitoring priorities. There is no sanctuary funding for similar work beyond this report, but findings can be used to leverage grant and other funding sources.

Japan Tsunami Marine Debris – Nir Barnea, NOAA Marine Debris Program, provided a presentation (available at http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/sac_meetings2012.html) on regional, federal and international efforts to track, monitor and anticipate this marine debris as it reaches U.S. shores. Much information is available on NOAA's website <http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/>. Efforts by OCNMS will focus on outreach, beach cleanups and baseline monitoring of debris on beaches.

Advisory Council 2012 Work Plan Development

Chip B. introduced the draft work plan and outlined the plan's format and content. This plan outlines the AC's work and actions, not all work of sanctuary staff or OCNMS. A goal for today is to identify high priority items for 2012, acknowledging some items may be completed, some initiated in 2012, and others may be delayed and carry over until 2013. It is anticipated the plan will be updated each year. The two "Actions" columns are important because they define inputs (e.g., information provided to the AC) and outputs (actions taken by the AC). Items or topics could require a briefing to the AC and may not require output action from the AC. AC members suggested 1) adding information on timing of actions and tracking of accomplishments, 2) first review the topics (left column) for additions or deletions, 3) prioritizing (if necessary), then 4) focus on refining descriptions of AC actions.

A round robin of topic revisions and questions followed:

1. Roy M. suggested adding a new topic on developing relationship with Lake Ozette sockeye restoration activities.
2. Clarification was sought on the goal of indicator species for OCNMS – staff responded indicator species would be used to assess ecosystem health, support OCNMS as a sentinel (monitoring) site, and inform the next OCNMS Condition Report.
3. Bob B. asked about B-WET funding in the future and noted Ocean Literacy had only one entry, the long range interpretive plan. An education working group was identified in the work plan.
4. Tom M. asked about the fish monitoring working group identified on the 2011 AC Work Plan. This pre-dated the new management plan, and the origin or need could not be recalled by those present.
5. Jody K. recommended that marine debris should not exclusively focus on Japan tsunami marine debris as there are ongoing concerns and actions to be taken related to all marine debris.
6. Tom M. noted the AC's liaison role (to their constituents) was not captured in the work plan. However, this is captured in the work plan under the topic "Advisory Council Effectiveness". Carol advised this is an ongoing process and responsibility.

The Council broke for lunch, then resumed discussion.

7. Sandra B. suggested consideration of the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) review and designation process. An EFH Review Committee through the PFMC is active; Jennifer H. (Quileute Natural Resources), Joe Schumacker (Quinault Natural Resources) and Ed Bowlby (OCNMS) are on this committee. Periodic updates to the AC were recommended rather than an AC working group that might provide input to the EFH review process.

Public Comment

Karen Matsumoto, Seattle Aquarium, spoke about the Coastal America National Partnership Award recently awarded to the Ocean Sciences Program, a collaboration between the Aquarium and OCNMS. OCNMS relationships with tribes and school districts laid the

foundation to bring Ocean Literacy and ocean science curriculum to middle school teachers in coastal communities. Although this program has been extremely successful, funding is needed to continue this program.

Roy M. distributed a handout on linkages between OCNMS and Lake Ozette sockeye recovery planning, where opportunities for OCNMS contributions exist. Jacqueline L. mentioned an outstanding grant application to support introducing school kids to the Lake Ozette sockeye issues.

George H. explained it had been reported the *General M.C. Meigs*, a WWII troop transport vessel that sank in off Washington in 1972, reportedly had 2.3 million gallons of petroleum on board, an unlikely volume which has been included in WDOE publications and the 1994 OCNMS EIS. George G. researched this topic and found the vessel contained an estimated 110,000 gallons of fuel. Chip will bring this information to WDOE for corrections to their publications.

Work Plan Development (continued)

To help all understand identified topics in the work plan, Carol B. reviewed each topic and fielded questions and comments. Bob S. reviewed goals for the Long Range Interpretive Plan and possible AC involvement. AC members asked about indicator species – the purpose and process for identifying them; some commented that climate change should not be the sole focus of indicators. Frank S. suggested a rough outline of a process for selecting indicator species - identifying helpful scenarios, conducting modeling, find biological implications, and then select indicator species.

Discussion followed about ranking topics (is it necessary?), selection of year 1 vs. year 2 priorities, and further clarification of AC actions and lead responsibility. Jennifer H. noted the IPC's Science Panel is working on a review of OCNMS' coastal mooring program, and this panel is seeking broader expertise (e.g., oceanographers). Collaboration with an AC working group or subcommittee is possible, but we must recognize the IPC Science Panel and an AC working group report to different entities. The concept of a standing AC Science Subcommittee was introduced, a group that could evaluate science topics and make recommendations to the AC for working group formation, as needed. Some noted the AC already serves this purpose.

Chip B. asked for advice – should the Executive Committee finalize the work plan or should the AC revisit it at subsequent meetings? General support was voiced for editing the work plan based on today's discussion and leaving it open for periodic updating. Discussion of timing for each topic was led to Carol B. presenting her thoughts on sequencing, based on today's discussion.

For immediate initiation of a working group to assist with the OCNMS coastal mooring project, it was recommended this be specifically formed as a Moorings Working Group. *Brady S. made a motion to establish this working group; Rebecca P. seconded. Unanimous support was voiced.* Jan N. and Sandra B. volunteered; Chip B. and Jennifer H. offered to make connections with

WDOE and IPC Science Panel personnel, respectively. Carol B. asked George G. to be staff support to this working group.

Future Agenda Topics

- Discuss ideas and topics for National AC Chairs Summit at the next meeting
- A review of OCNMS FY 2012 budget
- Update from the U. of Michigan graduate students' survey on Effectiveness of OCNMS' Institutional Relationships.
- Update on WDOE Contingency Rule revisions currently underway.

Member Announcements

Jody K. mentioned a public meeting in Montesano on next week and provided a briefing on a new rule allowing beach mining on state beaches south of the Quinault Reservation.

Bob B. had heard about a seabird wreck on the outer coast. Liam A. mentioned COASST is tracking this, but thinking is that a mild early winter caused lower than normal mortality rates and recent storms contributed to a recent uptick in numbers of dead alcids found.

Frank S. mentioned the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative, a stakeholder driven group, is recently formed working on climate change, and their progress may be of interest to the AC. See <http://www.fws.gov/pacific/Climatechange/nplcc/>

Jan N. provided an update on the NANOOS (Northwest Association of Networked Ocean Observing Systems) Cha ba buoy off La Push, which will be redeployed this spring and provides real time oceanographic data. Also, a sea glider will be deployed with POST (Pacific Ocean Shelf Tracking Project) receivers to track fish with acoustic transponders. Another oceanographic buoy sponsored by the Ocean Observing Initiative is planned for future deployment off Cape Elizabeth in the southern sanctuary. More information is available at www.nanoos.org
<http://www.postcoml.org/> <http://www.oceanobservatories.org/about/>

Next meeting March 16, 2012 in La Push (Editorial note: changed to Forks).