

OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

A REPORT FOR SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

REPORTING PERIOD: SEPT 14 – NOV 15, 2012

ABOUT THE SANCTUARY

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary spans 3,189 square miles of marine waters off the rugged Olympic Peninsula coastline. The sanctuary extends 25 to 50 miles seaward, covering much of the continental shelf and several major submarine canyons.

The sanctuary protects a productive upwelling zone - home to rich marine mammal and seabird faunas, diverse populations of kelp and intertidal algae, and thriving invertebrate communities. The sanctuary is also rich in cultural resources, with over 150 documented historical shipwrecks and the vibrant contemporary cultures of Makah, Quileute, and Hoh Indian Tribes, and Quinault Nation.

OFFICE REPORT

OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS AND PROGRAM UPDATES

Organized by Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS or sanctuary) management plan priority areas

TREATY TRUST RESPONSIBILITIES

Hoh Tribe to host annual Intergovernmental Policy Council meeting

The Olympic Coast Intergovernmental Policy Council annual meeting will be hosted by the Hoh Tribe. The meeting was originally scheduled for October 30th, but due to Hurricane Sandy on the east coast, ONMS Director Dan Basta was unable to make that meeting. The IPC annual meeting has been re-scheduled for November 15th. Agenda topics include a briefing on the Washington State Blue Ribbon Task Force on Ocean Acidification, next steps for First Stewards/climate change work, status of ONMS budget and projected funding for IPC, and other key topics of concerns. An updated Memorandum of Agreement regarding the operation of the IPC will also be signed by the parties, and proposed changes to the IPC Charter discussed.

Joint Intergovernmental Policy Council - Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting

The Olympic Coast Intergovernmental Policy Council and Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary's Advisory Council will hold their annual joint meeting on November 16 at the Olympic Natural Resources Center in Forks, Washington. The councils will review their recent accomplishments and discuss priorities for 2013, and identify opportunities for collaboration.

ACHIEVE EFFECTIVE AND COORDINATED MANAGEMENT

Vessels in Distress in or near Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary

On September 28, sanctuary staff were notified of a collision between two fishing vessels that occurred within the sanctuary at approximately 430AM. The 90 foot F/V Viking Storm collided with the 40 foot F/V Maverick. The F/V Maverick sank in the sanctuary in 500 feet of water 30 nautical miles west of La Push, Washington. Three crew members were rescued, a fourth crew member did not survive and was not recovered. The F/V Maverick carried an estimated 530 gallons of diesel and other fluids. OCNMS was in touch with NOAA Office of Response and Restoration and the USCG, and due the volume of fuel, distance offshore and water depth no spill response was initiated. NOAA Office of Law Enforcement has been asked to coordinate with the USCG on the investigation of the incident.

On October 12th, the *Koprino* an 86' wooden vessel sank in the sanctuary. The *Koprino*, built in 1926 was being delivered by a new owner from Canada to the U.S., when it started to take on water. The U.S. Coast Guard delivered pumps, but the vessel could not be saved, sinking with 400-500 gallons of diesel onboard. The two crew were rescued.

On October 24th, the U.S. Coast Guard reported that they had rescued two crew members from the disabled F/V *Paul Revere*. The *Paul Revere* is a 33' wooden fishing vessel built in 1933 and stationed in Neah Bay. The tug *Jeffery Foss* attempted to tow the vessel, but determined it was not safe to tow. At last report the vessel was drifted away from shore and sank in Canadian waters.

The occasional loss of small vessels in Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary is a major management issue for the sanctuary and other partners. The sanctuary works with the U.S. Coast Guard, Washington State and Coastal Treaty Tribes when these incidents occur. NOAA Office of Law Enforcement investigates the circumstances of these incidents to see if a violation of sanctuary regulations has occurred

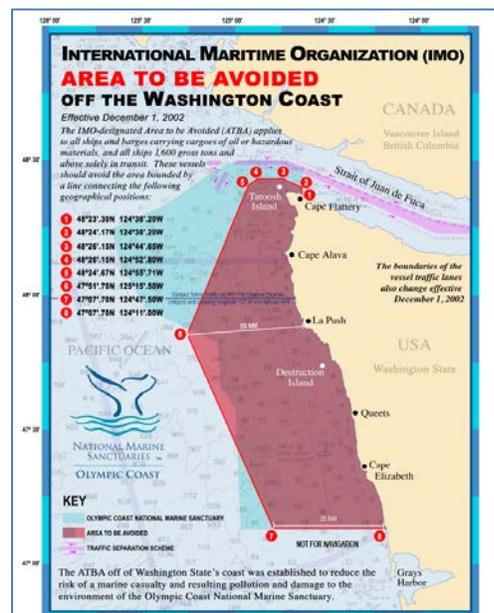
Presentation to the Port Angeles Chamber of Commerce

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Superintendent Carol Bernthal and Feiro Marine Life Center (FMLC) Director Deborah Moriarty collaborated on a presentation to the Port Angeles Chamber of Commerce. Their presentation was on an ongoing collaboration to develop a marine campus on the Port Angeles waterfront. The missions of the sanctuary and FMLC were discussed as well as ongoing collaborative educational programming. The City of Port Angeles is also an active partner in developing the marine campus concept and the local business community has been very supportive.

OCNMS has recently completed both a management plan review and complimentary long-term facilities strategy. One of the recommendations was to work with partners on a marine campus facility. The facility would provide the infrastructure to realize the goals of the management plan. NOAA, FMLC and the City of Port Angeles have jointly funded a pre-design study for the concept, which will be completed in the near future.

USCG briefs Canadian Vessel Traffic Operators on Changes in Sanctuary Vessel Management

The coastal waters between Washington State and British Columbia are jointly managed by the United States and Canadian Coast Guards. The Cooperative Vessel Traffic System (CVTS) is a model of international cooperation and vessel traffic management. Under the CVTS agreement Canadian vessel traffic operators manage the traffic in the approaches to the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Traffic management is passed off to the USCG inside the Straits. Due to this division of responsibility the waters of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary are managed by the Canadian Coast Guard. Per a Memorandum of Agreement between the USCG and NOAA, the USCG represents NOAA's interests in the CVTS. Recently USCG staff briefed their Canadian partners in a change to the applicability of an Area to be Avoided (ATBA) that will take place on December 1, 2012. The ATBA was designated by the International Maritime Organization to protect sanctuary waters. Effective in December the applicability of this voluntary vessel routing measure will change from all vessels 1600 gross tons and above to 400 gross tons and above. The Canadian Coast Guard operators will update their procedures to take into account this change.



The ATBA is a very successful management tool that helps mitigate the potential of a large oil spill due to drift groundings in the Sanctuary. OCNMS works with both the U.S. and Canadian Coast Guards on an ATBA monitoring and outreach program that has resulted in an estimated voluntary compliance rate of 99%.

Maritime Cultural Landscape Project with Pacific Coast Indian Tribes

Robert Steelquist, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, Valerie Grussing, Marine Protected Area Center and Roberta Cordero, acting as project tribal liaison, concluded the first of a series meetings with Makah (Washington), Grand Ronde (Oregon) and Yurok (California) tribal staff to establish protocols and begin outlining project details for traditional cultural property surveys in marine waters of each tribe's traditional territory. The three-state, three-tribe project is funded by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. The project will produce case-study reports on the process of creating Federal/Tribal project partnerships to protect indigenous cultural landscapes and technical capabilities that each tribe's Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) can use for identifying and protecting traditional cultural properties. The project team met with all three tribes at a meeting of tribal historic preservation staff and met with Makah Tribal Council members, and Makah GIS and THPO staff. In subsequent meetings, the project team met with Grand Ronde and Yurok council and staff in separate meetings on those reservations. At Yurok, they presented an overview of the project with tribal staff to the Yurok Tribal Council, fielding questions from council members about the project. At Grand Ronde, they met with THPO staff and were briefed on cultural work being performed. Tribal meetings with Makah, Grand Ronde and Yurok tribes have been successful in establishing appropriate communications protocols with each tribal government and tribal program office.

WSDOT reviews Copalis Beach Airport

Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is working to establish better runway end coordinates and to model the airspace for the Copalis Airport. This work will allow WSDOT to work with the sanctuary in identifying potential conflicts with the sanctuary airspace. Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) regulates the disturbance of wildlife from low overflights. The Copalis Beach Airport is adjacent to the sanctuary and OCNMS has been working with WSDOT on developing educational materials for general aviation pilots.

The monitoring and enforcement of overflight regulations is very difficult and conducting outreach to improve voluntary compliance to this regulation is the most efficient means of protecting sanctuary resources. Other partners such as the FAA and WSDOT are important to this effort.

CONDUCT COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH, ASSESSMENTS AND MONITORING TO INFORM ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT

Seafloor Mapping Team Establishes Cooperative Initiative for Quileute Area Mapping

OCNMS seafloor mapping specialists Nancy Wright and Rick Fletcher met with representatives of Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) and the Quileute Tribe to develop a collaborative mapping scheme for nearshore waters north and south of La Push harbor entrance. Using multibeam imagery and bathymetry from sonars on the R/V TATOOSH and DOE's shallow water wave runners, it will be possible to get maximum seafloor coverage of the rocky and highly dynamic area. The two mapping platforms will create a seamless nearshore map of the seafloor from the coast to the shelf.

The collaborative effort to use federal, state, and tribal resources toward a common mapping goal demonstrates the efficiency of inter-agency cooperation and communication. It will also be the first attempt to integrate vessel-borne multibeam sonar with data from the coastal wave-runners to create a seamless nearshore map.

OCNMS Oceanographic Data Now Linked with NANOOS

On November 8 OCNMS oceanographic mooring data was linked to the Northwest Association of Networked Ocean Observing Systems (NANOOS) web site. NANOOS, which focuses on Washington and Oregon, is one of 11 regional sites of the nation-wide Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). This new link provides additional exposure at the national level above and beyond OCNMS' own web site. Background information on NANOOS can be viewed at <http://www.nanoos.org/>. To view the new link on the NANOOS Visualization System, go to http://www.nanoos.org/nvs/nvs.php?section=NVS-Assets&infoWindow=action::auto_open||asset_class::mloc||tab::observations||asset_id::OCNMS_Transects. It takes a few minutes to load but a map graphic appears with a bubble pop-up indicating 'NOAA Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Moorings'. If you select the upper tab 'Details,' it provides a quick synopsis of the OCNMS mooring info. And if you click on the NOAA OCNMS Mooring title, it hot links to the OCNMS web page for Oceanographic Mooring Data (where the actual processed data from 2000-2011 is served; 2012 data is still being processed). Lastly you can zoom in for more detail at the left side of the site. To seek more information on NANOOS, inquiries can be sent to Dr. Jan Newton, the Executive Director and who is the primary science representative on OCNMS Advisory Council.

IMPROVE OCEAN LITERACY

New Orca Exhibit at the Port Townsend Marine Science Center

Research Coordinator Ed Bowlby represented OCNMS at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new orca (or killer whale) exhibit at Port Townsend Marine Science Center (PTMSC) on Saturday, September 29, 2012. This new exhibit is centered on the display of the female orca recovered from a stranding event in Dungeness Bay in 2002. OCNMS were involved in the stranding response. The second stranded orca, a male, was eventually towed out beyond Dungeness Spit and set free. Both of these orcas were transients, and not from the resident pods. Results from tissue samples from the female revealed the highest concentrations of PCBs ever measured in a marine mammal as well as large amounts of DDT. This is weaved into the story of 'Hope', the name that the PTMSC gave her for the education exhibit.

Ocean Frontiers – A Film on Marine Resource Management

Liam Antrim, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Resource Protection Specialist, served on a panel for discussion following a showing of the film "Ocean Frontiers" at Peninsula College. The film reviews new approaches to marine resource management and conservation that suggest a positive future for man's sustainable use of oceans. The film was shown at 7:00 pm on Friday, November 9 at Peninsula College.



Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Supports “Connecting People to Watersheds” Lake Ozette Sockeye Salmon Education Program

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, in partnership with NOAA Fisheries, supported “Connecting People to Watersheds” Lake Ozette Sockeye salmon education program. Lake Ozette Sockeye salmon were listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act in 1999. The education program actively engages students and community members in the recovery efforts of Lake Ozette sockeye salmon while exploring oral histories from the area, and helping them to make a connection to responsible stewardship actions. Students conduct interviews with community experts and document the history and significance of Lake Ozette Sockeye salmon. For their final projects, students will use their experience to develop short videos of the Lake Ozette Sockeye story from the perspective of their community. Schools targeted include Clallam Bay, Neah Bay, Forks and Quileute Tribe middle and high schools.

CONSERVE NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE SANCTUARY

Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat Report for West Coast

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) approved the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Phase 1 Report from its Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat Review Committee (EFHRC) at its September meeting. This is the first phase of the 5-year review process concerning new information on groundfish EFH for the west coast. The very comprehensive report (83.5MB) can be downloaded at [Agenda Item H.6.b, EFHRC Report 1](#) or a CD can be requested from PFMC. Full resolution maps and databases from this report are publically available at the PaCOOS web site (<http://efh-catalog.coas.oregonstate.edu/overview/>), which includes zipfile downloads for substrate and biogenic habitats (including brief metadata records for each). The Council also approved a National Marine Fisheries Service outline of a proposed synthesis and analysis of this new information to support the evaluation of the current EFH ([Agenda Item H.6.b, NMFS Report](#)). This is projected to be completed in six months. Lastly the Council approved most of the EFHRC proposed modifications for the request for proposals that will be issued after the completion of the NMFS synthesis report in regards to changing current EFH designations along the coasts of Washington, Oregon and California.

The Pacific Coast Groundfish EFH review was initiated in December 2010. The Essential Fish Habitat Review Committee met in person or via conference call several times since that time. The Committee compiled a report summarizing new and newly-available information regarding physical and biogenic habitats (which also links directly to NOAA’s Deep Sea Coral and Research Technology Program’s West Coast effort for the past three years: <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/protection/corals/deepseacorals.html>), habitat models, trophic interactions, and fishing and non-fishing activities that may affect groundfish EFH. This Phase 1 report summarizes the results of the review of information that is new or newly available since the last Groundfish EFH Review was concluded in 2006. The report includes a description of the general requirements and elements of EFH, including guidance for periodic reviews; a summary of existing descriptions of EFH for Pacific Coast groundfish; updated maps of seafloor habitat types and bathymetry; the currently available information on the distribution of Pacific Coast groundfish; a summary of models to predict groundfish distribution relative to habitat types, as well as trophic and ecosystem models useful for groundfish EFH; summaries of new information on the life history and habitat requirements of the 91 species in the Pacific Groundfish FMP; updated information on threats to groundfish EFH and prey species, both from fishing and non-fishing activities; and identification of research needs to further refine groundfish EFH. Research Coordinator Ed Bowlby and Resource Protection Specialist Karen Reyna are primary and alternative representatives respectively on the EFHRC for the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

Shoreline Cleanup Event Celebrates National Public Lands Day

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, Olympic National Park, the Makah Tribe and CoastSavers joined to coordinate a shoreline cleanup focused on a 7-mile segment between Cape Alava and Sand Point where the highest accumulations levels of debris have been reported. This event was developed as a small-scale effort focused on a single access point to the Park’s wilderness coastline where the Park and Sanctuary share jurisdiction. Thirty volunteers removed about 400 pounds of debris and an additional 20 pounds of recyclable materials from the popular Cape Alava triangle hike. This shoreline includes the

Ozette Indian Reservation, an uninhabited portion of lands owned by Makah Tribe. Aaron Parker from the Makah Tribe was present on the reservation to greet volunteers and direct cleanup activities on reservation lands. Sanctuary staff led the volunteer registration station and data collection efforts.

This cleanup, centered on National Public Lands Day, provided citizens an opportunity to contribute to marine conservation efforts and engage in regional response to Japan tsunami marine debris that is arriving on the shores of Washington State. This event presents a model for future cleanup efforts, which will be sanctioned by property owners, powered by volunteers, and most effectively coordinated as small-scale events targeted at high priority locations. Data collection efforts were maximized to characterize the types debris collected, as well as area-specific loading to inform future cleanup needs.

Interagency Meeting to Discuss Shoreline Debris Response Planning for the Northern Washington Coast

Carol Bernthal and Liam Antrim participated in an interagency meeting with Olympic National Park, Washington Islands National Wildlife Refuges, Quinault Nation, Quileute, Hoh, and Makah Tribes, and Washington State agency representatives to discuss shoreline debris response planning considerations unique to the northern coast, where the shores are in federal or tribal ownership. Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary has jurisdiction but not land ownership of the shore where adjacent to federal lands, and jurisdiction of waters adjacent to tribal reservations. To facilitate response activities on the northern coast, the agencies will develop a north coast supplement to the state's Japan tsunami debris response plan and host a tabletop exercise to work through coordination and prioritization issues for response on these lands with unique management considerations and difficult access in many locations.

With arrival of increased volumes of marine debris resulting from the Japan tsunami, advance planning and coordination is essential for an effective, collaborative, and when necessary a rapid response to debris on the shore.

SANCTUARY PERMITTING

Issued Permits and Approvals

OCNMS-2012-009 – Dr. Terry Egan, Washington State Emergency Management Division

Project Title: Aerial Survey of Shoreline Marine Debris

Permitted Activity: Low altitude overflight at a minimum altitude of 1,000' above ground level by a fixed wing aircraft, accomplished with a single pass survey transect

Project Location: Entire sanctuary shoreline of mainland

Permit Duration: Effective through February 28, 2013

Pending Permit Requests

Renewal of existing NMFS Permit (MULTI-2010-004) – Dr. John Stein, NOAA-NMFS-NW Fisheries Science Center

Project Title: Multiple projects including: Pacific Hake Acoustic Integrated Trawl Surveys and Research, Groundfish Bottom Trawl Surveys, Hook and Line Rockfish Surveys of the Southern California Bight. Additional projects may be presented as amendments to this permit application as they develop.

Project Location: All west coast National Marine Sanctuaries

LEARN ABOUT YOUR SANCTUARY

New information about resources in the sanctuary is always emerging. This section of the office report is reserved for sharing brief descriptions of recent studies, observations, findings, reports, forecasts related to the sanctuary.

Shoreline Debris

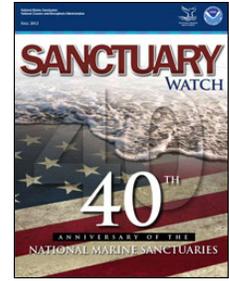
Field reports indicate that shoreline debris loading levels remain fairly light and the transition to typical fall weather pattern has not yet brought an anticipated increase in marine debris deposition to Washington's outer coast.

REGIONAL / NATIONAL ONMS NEWS

Sanctuary Watch 40th Anniversary

This issue of Sanctuary Watch celebrates 40 years of the National Marine Sanctuaries protecting and conserving our nation's underwater treasures. The articles discuss the origins of the National Marine Sanctuary Program and some of our sanctuaries, a few of the long struggles to designate sanctuary sites, and the remarkable support from communities surrounding sanctuaries.

<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/news/sw/welcome.html>



2012 National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Summit

The third phase of the 2012 Sanctuary Advisory Council Summit will be held at the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Exploration Center in Santa Cruz, California in early December, 2012. This phase will be conducted as an in-person meeting in an effort to further ongoing communications and information exchange among advisory councils and with the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS). This meeting will build upon previous forums (conducted via webinar and conference call) aimed at furthering relationships with the travel, tourism and recreation industries and identifying possible avenues for building upon existing tourism infrastructure, like communities, and efforts of other marine protected areas. The agenda has been structured to facilitate interaction among the 14 national marine sanctuary advisory council chairs and members of the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee.

40 Years of Sanctuaries – Top 40 Accomplishments

On October 23, 1972, the National Marine Sanctuaries Act was signed, initiating ocean protection and conservation at a scope and scale never seen before. Today, fourteen magnificent protected areas and two generations later, NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary System celebrates its 40th anniversary with a Top 40 list of its most significant accomplishments. Each day, for 40 days culminating on October 23, an accomplishment was posted at

<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/news/top40/welcome.html>. Join our celebration and dive into your underwater treasures today!

The following accomplishments are directly related to activities and programs of OCNMS:

- #31 Citizen Scientists;
- #30 First Stewards;
- #28 Vessel Traffic;
- #26 Visitor Centers;
- #19 Advisory Councils;
- #7 New Species; and
- #1 Volunteers

NEWS COVERAGE

NOAA's sanctuary system turns 40

<http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?l=e&country=0&special=&monthyear=&day=&id=56431&ndb=1&df=0>

Happy Birthday, Marine Sanctuaries

<http://www.independent.com/news/2012/oct/30/happy-birthday-marine-sanctuaries/>

America's Underwater Treasures Celebrate 40 Years – Jean Michel Cousteau

<http://www.oceanfutures.org/node/919>

Oceans' rising acidity a threat to shellfish – and humans

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-acidic-oceans-20121007.0.7494056.story>

Little Risk of diesel leaking from sunken fishing vessel, authorities say

<http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20121007/NEWS/310079987/little-risk-of-diesel-leaking-from-sunken-fishing-vessel-authorities>

State Marine Debris Task Force releases response plan that features ability to conserve or deploy resources when needed

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2012/12-004-MDNR.html>

Sanctuary Council Hears Update on Whale Strikes

<http://thedailyworld.com/sections/news/local/sanctuary-council-hears-update-whale-strikes.html>

Marine Centers May Merge Facilities in Port Angeles

<http://www.konp.com/local/8245>

Marine Research Campus Envisioned as Part of Port Angeles Waterfront Project

<http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20121031/NEWS/310319998/marine-research-campus-envisioned-as-part-of-port-angeles-waterfront>

WEB SITE (<http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/>)

Follow the OCNMS on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/usolympiccoastgov>

Please take a few moments to peruse the site. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.

Comments and suggestions can be sent to Jacqueline.Laverdure@noaa.gov.

FUN, OCEAN-RELATED WEB SITES

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

<http://www.noaa.gov/>

National Ocean Service

<http://www.nos.noaa.gov/>

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

<http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/>

NOAA Marine Debris Program

<http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/>

NOAA Online Media Library

<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/photos>

Encyclopedia of National Marine Sanctuaries

<http://www8.nos.noaa.gov/onms/park/>

NOAA Ocean Explorer

<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/>

National Data Buoy Center

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/rmd.shtml>

Washington's Ocean Resources

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/ocean/index.html>

CoastWatch – West Coast Regional Node

<http://coastwatch.pfel.noaa.gov/>

Learn More About Your Sanctuary

The Sanctuary Office Report is produced bi-monthly by the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary in conjunction with Sanctuary Advisory Council meetings. To learn more about the Sanctuary please visit our web site at: <http://www.olympiccoast.noaa.gov>.

To learn more about the Sanctuary Advisory Council please visit:
http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/sac_welcome.html

The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

The Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary is one of 14 marine protected areas in the National Marine Sanctuary System encompassing more than 150,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington State to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The system includes 13 national marine sanctuaries and the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Visit the ONMS web site at: <http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/>

Get involved!

To learn how to get involved in the Sanctuary visit:
<http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/welcome.html>

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