



Background on Olympic Coast NMS Advisory Council

By: Chip Boothe

Advisory Council Mandate

- NMSA allows for the creation of ACs at each site
 - Community input critical to Sanctuary success
 - SACs must operate w/l scope of charter
- Nationwide there are 425 AC members
- In 2009, ACs volunteered >12,000 hours
- Since 1992, ACs limited to no more than 15 voting members

OCNMS Advisory Council

- Charter approved and AC established in 1995
 - AC jurisdiction: OCNMS Geographic boundaries:
 - 135 miles WA coast; 2500 mi² w/l four coastal treaty tribes U&A fishing areas
- Member terms are for 3 years, officers for two years
- 15 voting seats; 8 gov't and 7 non-gov't
- 6 ex-officio U.S. gov't members (non-voting)
- Executive Committee: Chip Boothe (Chair), Bob Bohlman (Vice Chair), Brady Scott (Sec.)

AC Member Roles

- **Provide advice** to the Sanctuary Superintendent on management, use, and protection of the sanctuary. OCNMS Supt. provides AC feedback
- **Serve** as a liaison between the sanctuary and/or communities and the sanctuary
- **Identify** potential partners and constituent groups to work with; advise how to integrate gov't & tribal concerns
- **Help** identify and resolve issues involving sanctuary use and resources
- **Review** and provide input on sanctuary plans
- **Assist** in developing informed constituency:
 - Education & outreach
- **Provide** technical and background information

OCNMS AC Operations

- Protocols outlined in AC Charter
- AC advice directed to OCNMS Superintendent
- Staff works with AC to produce annual AC work plan and report on issues/projects.
 - Approved by Supt.
- AC resolutions based on AC member recommendations, not necessarily NOAA positions. Not an operational or decision-making body related to OCNMS activities
- AC uses Robert's Rules, focus on consensus
- All AC meetings open to the public. Must include a public comment period; meeting records are available to public.

Recent and Priority Issues

- Management plan review and implementation
- Six priority management needs identified in DMP
- NMSA reauthorization
- Military activities in Sanctuary
- Ocean acidification research
- Deep sea coral research and protection
- Neah Bay rescue tug, improved oil spill prevention measures
- Coastal cleanups
- OCNMS Condition Report
- Aqua Energy/Finavera wave energy project

AC in the Draft Management Plan (DMP)

Strategies and activities involving AC occur throughout the DMP, including in action plans:

Community Involvement in Sanctuary Management
 Sanctuary Operations
 Populations, Communities & Ecosystems
 Data Management, Sharing & Reporting
 Climate Change
 Marine Spatial Planning
 Socioeconomic Values of Resources in the Sanctuary

AC in the DMP

Specific strategies and activities that involve the AC:

- Improving AC meeting attendance and outreach to constituent groups
- Developing working groups to address specific issues in DMP
- Receiving briefings from staff (on permits, MP implementation etc.) and providing advice/guidance
- Assisting OCNMS in making adaptive management recommendations
- Assisting OCNMS in developing data management plan, reviewing climate change action plan

Potential AC-IPC Collaboration

- Improve Resources At-Risk Identification & Damage Assessments to OCNMS waters and affected Tribal U&A areas
- Data Management and assessment in support of MP activities
- Marine Spatial Planning Advice
 - Advice to OCNMS on Compatible Uses of Sanctuary resources , including fishing activities
- Outreach and Education to communities
- Developing working groups to address specific issues of mutual interest in DMP
- Ocean Council Issues



Updates on MPR, new USCG bill and NMSA reauthorization

By: George Galasso, Chip Boothe
and Carol Bernthal

MPR Update

- Internal review status
- Response to IPC comments
- Status of PFMC review
- January DMP release
- Public hearing(s)
- September Final MP release

MPR Internal Review

- DMP/DEA has almost completed internal review
- Proposed rule is in review
- DMP/DEA and proposed rule need to be published together, so rule must clear before publication
- Action plans are largely unchanged
- NEPA alternative C (non-preferred) has been modified as a result of new USCG bill
- OCNMS has responded to IPC comments

MPR PFMC Review

- PFMC Habitat Sub-Committee began review of publicly available MPR documents in November
- Joel Kawahara and David Price both involved with this review – thanks Joel and David!!
- Habitat Sub-Committee will continue its review when DMP/DEA and proposed rule are published
- Goal is for PFMC to finalize comments in March 2011

MPR Update/Questions?

- How firm is January 2011 publication date?
- When will public comment period begin?
- Will the AC comment?
- How many public hearings will there be? Where will they be? And when?
- Will we really be done in September 2011?

CG Authorization Act of 2010 Title VII – Oil Pollution Prevention

- Sec 704 – Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
- Sec 705 – Prevention of Small Oil Spills
- Sec 706 – Improved Coordination with Tribal Governments
- Sec 710 - Higher Volume Port Area Regulatory Definition Change
- Sec 711 – Tug Escorts for Laden Oil Tankers

NMSA Update

- A NMSA bill has not been introduced
- Dr. Lubchenco in process of responding to AC letter
- Response is likely to be general in nature; NOAA is considering internal efforts on an administration bill
- Chip forwarded OCNMS AC's letter to other ACs; other ACs may also send letters to NOAA