

A Look Ahead

The coming year promises to be an exciting one for Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary as we:

- Finalize our revised management plan with the help of the community and ocean management partners.
- Continue our collaborative work with the Olympic Coast Intergovernmental Policy Council, including planning a national symposium on climate change and its effect on indigenous communities.
- Finalize a design for a new research vessel to implement expanded research, education and resource management priorities as defined in our revised management plan.
- Expand our ocean literacy work to reach new audiences and add climate literacy as an emerging issue.
- Improve our visibility and the community's understanding of our work through an updated website and increased use of social media.
- Further reduce the threat of a harmful oil spill by modifying the highly successful Area to Be Avoided program to include smaller-sized ships transiting through sanctuary waters.

Supporting Jobs, Communities and Culture

Sharing 65 miles of coastline with Olympic National Park, over three million people visit the Olympic Peninsula each year. These visitors are drawn by activities such as wildlife watching, sportfishing, clamming, sea kayaking, surfing, and visiting museums, visitor centers and annual festivals and events. These recreational activities contribute a significant benefit to local economies. Approximately 3.5 million people live within 200 miles of the sanctuary. The Olympic Coast contains significant commercial fish resources. These fisheries serve as a food source and important economic base for coastal tribes and local communities.

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is committed to supporting lives and livelihoods across the nation and in sanctuary communities through socioeconomic research and monitoring to understand the economic and social drivers of sanctuary resources and improve management practices.

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Members

Officers

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Vice Chair: Brady Scott

Secretary: Ellen Matheny

Non-Governmental Members

Citizen At Large: Robert Boekelheide

Alternate: Roy Morris

Education: Ellen Matheny

Alternate: Lee Whitford

Research: Dr. Terrie Klinger

Alternate: John Calambokidis

Conservation/Environmental: Jody Kennedy

Alternate: Fayette Krause

Chamber of Commerce/Tourism/Recreation:

Meredith Parker

Alternate: Mike Gurling

Marine Business/Ports/Tourism/Industry:

John Veentjer

Alternate: Frank E. Holmes

Commercial Fishing: Joe Kawahara

Alternate: vacant

Governmental Members

Local Government

Grays Harbor County Commissioners Office:

Al Carter

Alternates: Phil Johnson, Mike Doherty

State Government

Washington Department of Ecology: Chip Boothe

Alternates: Rebecca Post, Diane Butorac

Washington Department of Natural Resources:

David Price

Alternate: David Roberts

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife:

David Price

Alternate: Corey Niles

Tribal Government

Hoh Tribe: David Hudson

Alternate: Joe Gilbertson

Makah Tribe: Steve Joner

Alternate: Dana Sarff

Quileute Tribe: Mel Moon

Alternate: Jennifer Hagan

Quinault Nation: Ed Johnstone

Alternate: Joe Schumacker

Federal Government

U.S. Coast Guard (non-voting):

Capt Scott Bornemann

Alternate: Capt. Scott Pollock

U.S. Navy (non-voting): George Hart

Alternate: John Miller

National Park Service: (non-voting): Karen Gustin

Alternate: Steve Fradkin

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (non-voting):

Kevin Ryan

Alternate: vacant

NOAA National Marine Fisheries (non-voting):

Kevin Duffy

Alternate: Garth Griffin

Northwest Straits Commission (non-voting):

Ginny Broadhurst

Alternate: Caroline Gibson

NOAA Olympic Coast NMS (non-voting):

Carol Bernthal

Sanctuary Advisory Council Coordinator

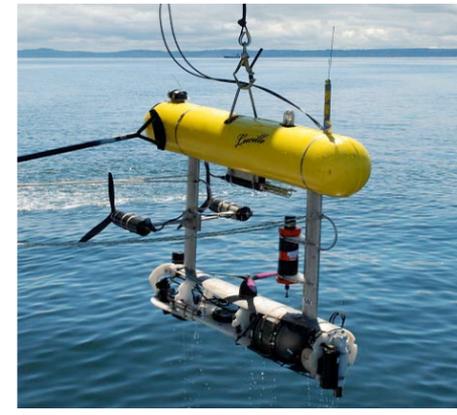
Lauren Bennett

National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY



2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary spans 3,310 square miles of marine waters off the rugged Olympic Peninsula. The sanctuary is home to many marine mammals and seabirds, diverse populations of kelp and intertidal algae, and thriving invertebrate communities. This sanctuary is also rich in cultural resources, with more than 180 documented historical shipwrecks and the vibrant contemporary cultures of the Makah, Quinault, Hoh and Quileute Nations. Established July 16, 1994.

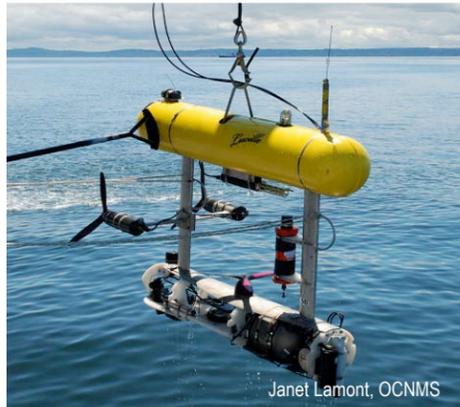
<http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov>



Bob Steelquist, OCNMS

“Navigating the Future,” Collaboratively

Sanctuary staff, the Sanctuary Advisory Council and the Intergovernmental Policy Council collaborated to complete the Draft Management Plan for Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary. The plan outlines an ambitious working agenda for the sanctuary for the next five to 10 years. The document is structured around six priority topics: (1) treaty trust responsibility, (2) collaborative and coordinated management, (3) research, assessment and monitoring, (4) ocean literacy, (5) conserve natural resources, and (6) cultural, historical and socioeconomic significance. These topics are addressed through 20 action plans, 83 strategies and 294 activities. The proposed plan, built around the theme of “collaboration,” is scheduled for release for public comment in spring 2011.



Janet Lamont, OCNMS

Deep-Sea Corals of the West Coast

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary hosted the first leg of a west coast deep-sea coral research cruise in June. This NOAA mission was conducted aboard the NOAA research vessel *McArthur II*, and included participants from NOAA’s National Ocean Service and National Marine Fisheries Service, as well as university and tribal involvement. During the Olympic Coast leg, scientists conducted remotely operated vehicle and autonomous underwater vehicle surveys across deep-sea coral habitat areas. This effort represented the first year of a three-year program to better understand the location, distribution, status and health of deep-sea coral and sponge ecosystems in order to inform conservation and management decisions on the west coast. The expedition was documented on its own website, which featured regular blogs from the scientists and placed ocean exploration and NOAA’s work at the public’s fingertips.

http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/missions/2010coral_west/welcome.html

National Sanctuary Advisory Council Summit

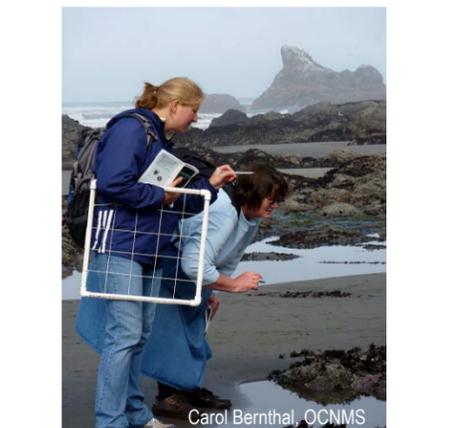
Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary hosted the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries Advisory Council Summit at Olympic Park Institute on Lake Crescent. Over 50 attendees met for the week, including chairs and council coordinators from the 13 sanctuaries and from the national monument, as well as a representative from Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans. The group traveled to Neah Bay where they were generously hosted by the Makah Tribal Council. They toured the Makah Cultural Research Center and Museum and hiked the Cape Flattery Trail to view the sanctuary’s spectacular scenery. During the national gathering, advisory council coordinators met as a group to discuss ways of improving the performance of advisory councils, enhance advisory council member recruitment, and ways to engage the councils on national issues.

Partnering for Ocean Literacy

Elementary school teachers from Washington’s outer coast participated in a four-day Ocean Science Teacher Professional Development Workshop – “Ocean Literacy in the Field and the Classroom.” The workshop integrated Ocean Literacy principles and concepts into inquiry-based marine science education and instruction. Teachers participated in hands-on activities and conducted field investigations. As a result of this and other workshops and student-based activities, over 200 teachers and 4,000 students were able to learn about ocean science through direct participation in field trips and classroom sessions led by sanctuary and Seattle Aquarium staff and their partners. The project marked one activity in year four of a five-year partnership between the sanctuary and the Seattle Aquarium, and was funded by a NOAA Environmental Literacy Grant.



Nicole Capps, WCRO



Carol Bernthal, OCNMS



Lisa Eschenbach



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Ed Bowlby, OCNMS



Rudi Edel

Olympic Coast Hosts NOAA Education Grants Program

On behalf of NOAA, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary education staff administered the Pacific Northwest Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) grants program. This year, nine grants were awarded to community-based environmental education organizations from Oregon and Washington. The total dollar amount awarded was \$615,000. Pacific Northwest B-WET grants support kindergarten through Pacific Northwest, B-WET has created new partnerships for NOAA education programs including NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, and the National Ocean Service’s Padilla Bay and South Slough national estuarine research reserves.

Coastal Marine Spatial Planning

Coastal marine spatial planning is a collaborative science-based process of analyzing present and future uses of the ocean and its resources. Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary is actively engaged with the State of Washington, Indian Tribes, NOAA and other federal partners in creating a regional system of coordinated ocean resource management. Sanctuary staff participated on a working group developing a statewide framework to define how to accomplish marine spatial planning to meet state and national goals for improving ocean management. The sanctuary’s ongoing commitment to the effort is to help define and deliver data needed to support marine spatial planning as well as participating in planning efforts for the outer coast.

Rapid Response to Changing Ocean Conditions

Intensive plankton blooms off the Oregon and Washington coast in the fall of 2009 resulted in the deaths of over 6,000 seabirds. The organism, *Akashiwo sanguinea*, under intense wave activity, breaks down creating detergent-like foam which interferes with the ability of birds’ feathers to shed water. Once water penetrates a bird’s feathers it is no longer able to stay warm and it can suffer and die from hypothermia. As a result, the sanctuary and its partner agencies mobilized a cooperative effort to quickly assess – and respond to – similar “natural” events that require the rapid action of teams of biologists, oceanographers and other experts. Fearing a repeat of the previous year’s “seabird wreck,” the teams reacted quickly when white winged and surf scoters that normally remain at sea started appearing on beaches. Fortunately, this year’s event proved minor. However, prepared for the worst, the ongoing cooperation, aided with good planning and communication proved a major improvement in understanding and responding to dynamic events in the marine environment.

Volunteers on the Move

Eleven staff and volunteers from Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary traveled to Port Angeles, Wash. for a week-long volunteer exchange hosted by staff and volunteers from Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary. With visits to the Olympic Mountains, temperate rainforests, ocean beaches and rocky intertidal areas they gained an understanding of the unique habitats and animal species found here. A highlight of the visit was participation in Tribal Journeys of the Pacific Northwest, an annual cultural event of American Indian and First Nations people. Working side-by-side with Olympic Coast volunteers, the Great Lakes visitors got a first-hand look at the importance of maritime heritage in Washington State. Guests also traveled to the Elwha River valley and met with Olympic National Park staff to learn of