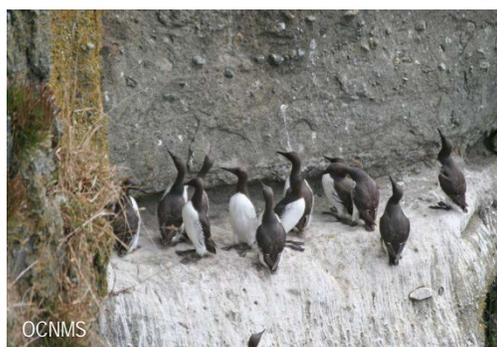


## 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



### FIRST STEWARDS FOCUS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

With support from the sanctuary and the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, the Hoh, Makah and Quileute Tribes and the Quinault Indian Nation hosted the inaugural First Stewards symposium in Washington D.C. The event brought together regional panels addressing Native views on climate change, traditional ecological knowledge, and adaptation. Native perspectives regarding sovereignty and conservation challenges resulting from climate change are essential to effective collaboration among NOAA, tribal governments and the communities they serve.



### OVERFLIGHT RESTRICTIONS POSTED ON FAA CHARTS

The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries revised the wording of four West Coast sanctuaries' overflight regulations for inclusion on aeronautical charts. After lengthy negotiations with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) regulations are now included on aeronautical charts and will protect marine wildlife from low overflight disturbances. Overflight education has been a long-standing priority for the sanctuary. The revisions to aeronautical charts provide a new tool for educating the aeronautical community about sensitive sanctuary resources.



### DEEP SEA SCIENCE

OCNMS issued several reports on deep sea coral and sponge communities and associated habitats. Sanctuary science will help inform decision-making on essential fish habitat and support emerging work with Native Tribes, the State of Washington and the Pacific Fishery Management Council.



### OCEAN SCIENCE PROGRAM RECEIVES AWARD

OCNMS has built upon years of successful collaboration with regional education partners, including NOAA's B-WET and Environmental Literacy grants programs, the Seattle Aquarium, Feiro Marine Life Center and scores of schools to deliver high quality, field-based education programs. The long-standing Ocean Science program received a Coastal America Partnership Award for outstanding efforts to restore and protect the coastal environment. By emphasizing hands-on, project-based learning, Ocean Science has introduced hundreds of students to the sanctuary, its resources and the conservation challenges facing the region in the future.



## LOOKING AHEAD

- Washington Sea Grant, the University of Washington and OCNMS staff are working on a climate change scenario report for OCNMS. The report analyzes climate factors that may influence the management of marine resources and OCNMS over the next 50-100 years.
- Sanctuary staff have actively engaged in regional efforts associated with the tsunami marine debris. Using trained volunteers, OCNMS initiated a scientific monitoring program at six shoreline locations. The sanctuary is working with partners on a contingency plan.
- The 2012 facilities plan provides recommendations for the creation of a marine-focused campus on the Port Angeles waterfront which will serve as a tourism amenity, marine conservation education center and administrative headquarters for the sanctuary and other marine-focused organizations. The proposed marine campus has strong support from the City of Port Angeles and supports their ongoing effort to revitalize the downtown waterfront.

**Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary** spans 3,189 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. The sanctuary is also rich in cultural resources, with more than 180 documented historical shipwrecks and the vibrant contemporary cultures of Makah, Quinalt, Hoh and Quileute Nations. Established July 16, 1994.

*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.*

## NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY SYSTEM

- Olympic Coast
- Cordell Bank
- Gulf of the Farallones
- Papahānaumokuākea
- Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale
- Monterey Bay
- Channel Islands
- American Samoa (U.S.)

- Thunder Bay
- Stellwagen Bank
- Monitor
- Gray's Reef
- Florida Keys
- Flower Garden Banks

○ National Marine Sanctuary  
 ▲ Marine National Monument  
 Scale varies in this perspective. Adapted from National Geographic Maps.

The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries serves as the trustee for a system of 14 marine protected areas 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. For more information on the National Marine Sanctuary System, visit: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov>