

# MBNMS Report

Kevin Grant, Acting Superintendent



## GFNMS Advisory Council meeting November 17, 2020

Report by: Kevin Grant, Acting MBNMS Superintendent



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## Education

- MBNMS Staff hosted live distance learning programs featuring the 2020 *Nautilus Expedition* with 387 students participating
- Kick off of virtual distance learning programs. Five programs have been developed:
  - Protect your Watershed
  - Plankton Exploration
  - Dive into Kelp Forests
  - Deep Sea Discovery
  - Sounds in the Sanctuary



Photo: The Distance Learning Setup at the Sanctuary Exploration Center, Chelsea Prindle

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## Research

- Staff completes deep-sea research expedition in MBNMS with E/V *Nautilus*
  - Data gathered to characterize and identify sensitive seafloor areas of Pioneer Canyon off the San Mateo coast
  - Observed thousands of octopus brooding eggs near Davidson Seamount
  - Whale fall discovered in 2019 revisited



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## Resource Protection

- Open Farm Tour virtual presentation on plastic in agriculture.
- Team OCEAN hits the water with new COVID precautions
- Whale Entanglement Risk Assessment & Mitigation Program (RAMP) begins for upcoming crab fishing season



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## Operations and Administration

- MPR Process Continues:
  - Formulating response to Comments document
  - Conducting agency consultations
  - Making edits to the draft management plan, DEA and proposed rule

