



**GULF OF THE FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**
Pacifica Beach Resort
525 Crespi Dr., Pacifica, CA
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
July 14, 2005, Thursday

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary
Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

July 14, 2005
Pacifica Beach Resort, Pacifica, CA

Note: The following meeting notes are an account of discussions at the Advisory Council meeting and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or position of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, REVIEW AGENDA

Advisory Council Chair Barbara Emley called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

ROLL CALL:

Advisory Council Members Present (Primary Seats and Alternates)

Bob Breen	Education
Richard Charter	Conservation
Chris Colburn	Monterey Bay NMS- Alternate
Brenda Donald	Research-Alternate
Barbara Emley	Chair/Maritime Activities
Mick Menigoz	Maritime Activities
Brian O'Neill	National Park Service
Chris Powell	National Park Service- Alternate
Steve Shimek	Liaison from Monterey Bay NMS Advisory Council
Bob Wilson	Conservation

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Staff

Maria Brown	Sanctuary Manager
Irina Kogan	Resource Protection Specialist
Brian Johnson	Acting Assistant Manager
Joanne Mohr	Acting Sanctuary Advisory Council Coordinator

JMPR Team

Anne Walton	Management Plan Coordinator
by telephone	
Yasaman Golban	Assistant Management Plan Coordinator

Copies to/Absent

Gwen Heistand	Education- Alternate
Jim Kelly	Research
Mark Dowie	Community At-Large
Bill Duros	Monterey Bay NMS Superintendent

Review Agenda:

Agenda approved.

Approval of Prior Minutes:

The Advisory Council approved the notes of April 18, 2005.

REPORTS*Council Member Reports: Round Robin*

- Brenda Donald, Research-Alternate, reported that she participated in Snapshot Day held in early May and lead a team of volunteer citizens out to monitor watersheds. Snapshot Day is a statewide water quality-monitoring event.
- Brian O'Neill, National Park Service, said that the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Negotiated Rulemaking for Off-leashed Dog Management process has begun. The committee is in the final stages of input and approval of the proposed participants. The meetings will begin in the next two months.
- Brian O'Neill reported The Marine Mammal Center (TMMC) has reached final agreement with the GGNRA in regards to the campus upgrade. The project cost is \$18 million, which \$14.5 million has been raised by the TMMC. The new facility will be a far more sophisticated center and Brian is pleased that it is going forward. A new facility is also opening in San Luis Obispo in a couple weeks and there is a shifting of resources to the Monterey facilities while construction is taking place.
- Barbara Emley, Chair/Maritime Activities, reported the salmon fleet sat out the month of June due to closures. Salmon was being fished below Pt. Sur.
- Bob Breen, Education, reported he and Steve Woods from the Sanctuary LiMPETS program have taken the program to San Mateo County. The future plan will be to look at taking the program from Pigeon Point to Point Reyes to facilitate science teacher workshops.
- Mick Menigoz, Maritime Activities, reported the lack of krill. Salmon and whales are feeding on anchovies and sardines instead of krill. He participated in a rockfish tagging study looking at migration patterns. There were about 400 fish per day tagged, with about 3000 fish being tagged in the study.
- Bob Wilson, Conservation, was nominated as the National Marine Sanctuary Volunteer of the Year Award by GFNMS and was invited to Capital Hill Oceans Week in June. He reported there was a week of events ranging from Sylvia Earle to Congresswoman Woosley making presentations. Yes, he had a great time.
- Bob Wilson also reported that The Marine Mammal Center is handling large numbers of pinnipeds with domoic acid poisoning due to the red tide occurring.

Liaison Reports

- Steve Shimek, MBNMS liaison to the GFNMS Advisory Council, reported the MBNMS Advisory Council wrote a strong letter of concern to Dan Basta about the Management Plan Review and the length of time it has taken to move forward.
- Steve also brought up the Marine Life Protection Act of the Central Coast is defined from Pigeon Point to Pt. Conception. There is some movement towards protected areas around

Pigeon Point. There is no real group involved in the process from Half Moon Bay. The people are predominately from Monterey and Morro Bay. Steve asked how the Advisory Council wanted to relate to this process since this area falls in the Farallones Sanctuary area. It was pointed out that the Farallones Sanctuary boundary goes to Ano Nuevo.

- On a conservation topic, Steve indicated sea otter counts are slightly down this year. The Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) states all of Southern California from Pt. Conception to the Mexican border is a no sea otter zone. The federal government is about to come out with a review of the policy, and there will be public hearings in Monterey and Santa Barbara on the issue. Steve anticipates the review will be contentious with the sea urchin fishermen.
- The MBNMS Advisory Council agenda was passed out to the council.

Pillar Point Signage Project

- Maria also reported that the development of the Pillar Point Harbor signage project is moving forward. The Memoranda of Agreement with Pillar Point Harbor is in the final stages of approval. Julie Barrow, Advisory Council Coordinator, was leading the project; the sanctuary is now looking for someone to take the lead while she is on leave. A design firm has been selected and the current completion goal for the sign designs is fall 2005.
- The Half Moon Bay office relocation is moving forward and the target date of the move is Fall 2006. In June, a facility master plan meeting was held with Booz Allen and Trans-system, and Facilities Consulting consultants who will be facilitating the master plan effort. A site evaluation workshop was held with stakeholders and the consultants. The process will look at the GGNRA Crissy Field sanctuary building, Pillar Point Harbor locations, the Bodega Marine Lab and Point Reyes National Seashore's Red Barn and Sacramento Landing. The consultants will be attending the October Advisory Council retreat to present the preliminary information of the first meeting to the Advisory Council and get the advisory Council's input.

Ad-Hoc Fishing Group Report

- Barbara Emley, Chair/Maritime Activities, reported the group met with Astrid Scholz from Ecotrust to get the final report on the fishing activities in the Farallones Sanctuary. There was good input from fishermen, but Astrid may have issues with the sample size of the fishermen to make good conclusions. Barbara suggested that the smaller fishing group meet after the draft copy is complete to see if it answers the questions the group originally had proposed.
- Maria Brown, Sanctuary Manager, said there would be a draft copy of the report distributed to the Advisory Council before final publication. Department of Fish and Game did review the report and seemed happy with it, except there was a question as to the sample size in some of the areas. Maria pointed out there aren't many fishermen to interview in the area.

Estero Ad-Hoc Working Group

- Richard Charter, Conservation, reported that the group hasn't met. He is happy to report on issues, but the Estero ad-hoc group doesn't seem very involved. Richard reports that the quarry in the Estero watershed appears to be going forward and the existing Sonoma landfill dump is full and has had serious leaching problems and is closed. The garbage is being trucked out of Sonoma County and may be put on trains to Nevada. There is no new site for the dump at the moment in Sonoma County. The extensive funding from the Department of

Agriculture for rehabilitation for watersheds and waterways in the Estero Americano watershed has acquired a new staff person and has begun meeting again. A significant amount of money will be distributed to interested landowners for riparian restoration and erosion control. Richard feels it could have a positive effect on the watersheds in the Estero.

- Barbara Emley, Chair/Maritime Activities, asked whether the Estero ad-hoc working group should disband if they aren't going to meet, since the Advisory Council formed it. Richard Charter prefers to ask the working group if they want to continue or disband and report back at the next meeting to the Advisory Council.

Seismic Airgun Surveys

- Richard Charter, Conservation, said after three years of trying, the U.S. Congress is on the verge of passing an energy bill. He discussed what was occurring in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate. Due primarily to bi-partisan support, from Committee Chairs, all Republican, and the Republican governor of California, the House Amendment was beaten back by an impressive 200+ votes. The House and the Senate will meet next week to work out their differences on the air gun survey issue regarding Sanctuaries.
- Richard proposed a resolution that he handed out. (see attachment)
- Richard also discussed the gas additive MTBE that is getting in aquifers and water supplies as a major stumbling block to the passage of the energy bill. Language has been included that holds manufacturers of MTBE harmless for impacts. MTBE is the main concern with the seismic air gun survey issue being the second most contentious part.
- Richard continued to discuss issues relating to air gun seismic survey petroleum exploration proposed for waters adjoining National Marine Sanctuaries. At issue for the sanctuary is the potential of thousands of miles of track line throughout the ocean making turns at the borders of the sanctuaries conducting an "inventory" of offshore oil and gas potential. In making these runs, they will be dragging cables that have air cannons that will fire every few seconds and which are indistinguishable from high explosives. It has been determined that such extreme acoustical disturbance has been tied to permanently damaging the hearing of fish, their navigational senses and other basic survival capabilities. Decibel levels are deceptive in water and are difficult to measure. But it has been shown that in a number of places – Newfoundland primary among them – that these acoustical impacts can scare entire schools of fish away. It also is implicated in stranding of whales and other marine mammals in the Sea of Cortez and off the coast of Spain.
- Richard pointed out that research shows the resources the Advisory Council are protecting are being affected and threatened by this activity even though it is occurring outside the marine sanctuary, even at great distances. There are findings also that invertebrates are adversely impacted by these impulses. Basically there is almost nothing in the ocean that is not impacted by this activity.

Discussion:

- Bob Breen asked about the data and what sorts of studies are being done, in particular on the lateral lines of fish. Richard Charter agreed to send Bob Breen the data and studies that are emerging.

Action:



Richard Charter, Conservation, recommended a resolution:

If the sanctuary manager, staff and Advisory Council are charged with the mandate of protecting the sanctuary, seismic air gun testing impacts every square foot of the sanctuary. He suggests that the sanctuary manager- seek a legal opinion as to whether or not this impact on Sanctuary resources is consistent with Management Plan and the regulations of the Sanctuary. Richard prepared a resolution and handed it out to the council.

Discussion:

- Brian O’Neill asked if there is a NEPA document or an exemption to the bill. Richard felt there will not be a comprehensive NEPA study document on this as the Senate may use old, outdated studies. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) study on this says that the total cost will be in the billions of dollars, but that there is no money authorized for this right now.

Action:

Motion: Richard Charter, Conservation, moved to adopt the proposed resolution unless someone wanted to modify or amend it.

Seconded by: Bob Wilson, Conservation

Further Discussion:

- Chris Powell asked about the timing of this resolution, since the meetings are going on now. Once Maria gets a response from the NMS counsel is there a further action after that? Richard felt that the legal opinion could take a year.
- There was discussion to add timing into the resolution. What is realistic timing and would 30 days be realistic.
- Brian O’Neill asked if there is internal chatter and discussion between senior leadership and NOAA. Maria said that she is unaware of any discussions at the moment within the leadership team. There may be discussions in higher management however.
- Brian O’Neill says being quiet on the “harm issue” maybe to the Sanctuary’s advantage.
- Richard Charter expressed that SAC needs to build a legal record.
- Also to add to Richard’s resolution, is that it be forwarded to all conferees once SAC has the legal opinion.

Action:

Motion: Richard Charter, Conservation, moved the Advisory Council act on the following resolution:

“Therefore, be it resolved that the Gulf of the Farallones Sanctuary Advisory Council hereby requests that the Sanctuary Manager of the Gulf of the Farallones NMS seek a formal legal opinion from the GFNMS legal counsel to be completed promptly within 30 days with regard to the ramifications of the adverse impacts of such seismic survey airgun activity on Sanctuary resources in the context of the Sanctuary Designation Document, the Sanctuary Regulations, and the Sanctuary Management Plan; and

“Further be it resolved that this resolution be transmitted immediately to all relevant Sanctuary Program officials, including sanctuary managers.”



Discussion on the Motion:

- Bob Breen, Education, inserted in fourth paragraph “including the sensory organs of certain marine mammals”. Council agreed to the changes in the resolution.

Action:

Motion: For the Advisory Council to go forward with the proposed resolution.

Moved by: Richard Charter, Conservation

Seconded by: Bob Wilson, Conservation

Vote: There was consensus to support the motion.

Motion passed.

Advisory Council Letter to Commerce Secretary

Richard Charter amended the letter to Secretary Gutierrez, and it is ready to be sent with approval from the Advisory Council.

Action:

Motion: Barbara Emley, Chair requested a motion to send the letter. Bob Wilson, Conservation moved that the letter be approved with amendments and sent to Secretary Gutierrez.

Seconded by: Brian O’Neill, National Park Service

Vote: There was consensus to support the motion.

Motion passed.

MBNMS Special Marine Protected Area (MPA) Working Group

Irina Kogan, Resource Protection Specialist, presented an update and highlights on the Monterey Bay Marine Reserve working group. One working group meeting was held in May. She discussed the issues with a power point presentation.

- The decision support tool introduced last meeting is well on its way to being populated with information, and the working group is scheduled to use the tool at the next meeting in August. (It may be online and the Advisory Council will be able to take a look at it in October.)
- Irina summarized oceanographic presentations, discussions on the boundary area and the joint effort with CA Department of Fish and Game to compile the GIS data.
- Irina reported there have been no working group meetings in June and July, and one is scheduled for August. The group this summer has been working on selecting and developing the decision and support tool, populating it with data, and conducting the non-extractive use focus groups along with coordination with the state effort with CA Department of Fish and Game.
- Irina discussed the MLPA/SMPA Coordination. The State of CA Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Central Coast Pilot Project will be from Pigeon Pt. to Pt. Conception.
- MBNMS will conduct a parallel effort in federal waters with Pigeon Pt. as the northern limit.

Discussion:

- Barbara Emley expressed concern after talking to Morro Bay area fishermen that they do not have a good contact person who is making them feel comfortable with this process. She is concerned the data may not be as good as the Farallones Sanctuary’s. There are questions on the accuracy of the GIS data. The fishermen’s observations and information is contrary to

what the GIS studies are coming up with. Barbara wondered how likely it is that the fishermen will go to a website to contest information that is contrary to their experience of habitats and area.

- Maria Brown requested Irina Kogan to bring Barbara Emley's comments back to the next Marine Reserve Working Group.
- Steve Shimek, Liaison from Monterey Bay NMS Advisory Council expressed that Astrid Scholz from Ecotrust is doing her best at contacting the Morro Bay fishermen.
- Steve also mentioned there is a GIS website that is up and working on the UCSB server currently.
- Sanctuary Intergrated Monitoring Network, (SIMoN) data will be incorporated in this process and will be included eventually.
- Maria Brown, Sanctuary Manager, wants to see the efforts of MBNMS be successful and asked Steve to take back to MBNMS that GFNMS is willing to offer help and contribute any experience GFNMS has to the process. Confidence with the fisherman is essential to the success of the project.
- Barbara Emley, Chair/Maritime pointed out, if it cannot be done with confidence, the data that comes out of it won't be valid and useful.
- At the last December joint meeting Katlin Geffney, MBNMS Conservation Seat, requested the GF Sanctuary Advisory Council have a seat on the Monterey Bay Sanctuary working group public meetings. The meetings will be held before December, and Maria proposed we nominate a council represented *now* so the Advisory Council can take action quickly, when the seat is approved. Bob Breen, Education, is willing to be the representative.

Action:

Motion: Richard Charter, Conservation, moved to have Bob Breen, Education, be the GF Advisory Council representative on the Monterey Bay MPA working group.

Seconded by: Bob Wilson, Conservation.

Vote: There was consensus to support the motion.

Motion passed.

Discussion:

- Maria Brown, Manager, asked whether the Advisory Council wants to have a representative attend the State Marine Reserve meetings. Richard suggested that if there is a Conservation alternate in the future, perhaps they could attend. Irina Kogan is currently attending some, but not all of the meetings. Current council members could not commit at this time to attend the meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Shawn Smith, Blue Water Network stated he was here today to ask that a resolution be proposed to include the San Francisco Exemption Area (donut hole) waters in the National Marine System. Currently there is a shift in sewage to the donut hole. He is also concerned that ships could be dumping while sailing through the donut hole. Both San Mateo and Pacifica have passed a resolution in closing the donut hole.
- Deborah Hirst, Legislative Aid from the San Mateo County Supervisor Richard Gordon's office is proud of the work on the water quality effort and urged the council to pass resolution to close the donut hole.



- Paul Perkovic, Montara Water and Sanitary District, Midcoast Community Council, asked if the Advisory Council could take advantage of the media to inform and make public to create awareness of the seismic gun testing issues. He had no idea of these issues before this meeting.

REPORTS (con't)

Water Summit

Irina Kogan, Resource Protection Specialist, reported on the April Water Summit meeting. 160 people attended the meeting and felt there was great energy from federal, state, local, and public participants.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Maria Brown, Sanctuary Manager, was sorry to report that Julie Barrow, SAC Coordinator has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will be on extended sick leave through the end of the year. We are lucky to have Joanne Mohr from the Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association join us as Acting Sanctuary Council Coordinator.

Member Recognition

- Maria acknowledged and thanked Richard Charter for his efforts in keeping the Advisory Council up to date on current Congressional House and Senate issues, an endless task.
- Barbara Emley, Chair/Maritime Activities, was featured in a New York Times article on the salmon fleet.
- Current books on the Sanctuary:
Devil's Teeth, by Susan Casey is a book about the white sharks around the Farallon Islands and her experiences.
Rare Birds, Pursuing the Mystery of the Marbled Murrelet, by Maria Mudd Ruth, mentions the Beach Watch Program.

Expansion Bill

Maria Brown, Manager, reported Senator Barbara Boxer and Representative Lynn Woosley on July 5, 2005 held a media event on their bills to extend the GFNMS northern boundary to include the Sonoma Coast lines, to protect it from off shore oil drilling.

- Richard Charter mentioned that the topic is taking a new era- in terms of things changing on Capital Hill; he suggested that the opportunity to expand might be now.
- Chris Powell thanked Richard for his effort to keep everyone informed on the issues. The July 5th presentation is on the Channel 5 website- take a look if you have missed it.

SAN FRANCISCO/ PACIFICA EXEMPTION AREA

Irina Kogan, Resource Protection Specialist, gave an overview and background power point presentation of the Exemption Area between Pt. San Pedro, San Mateo County, north to Point Bonita, Marin County, covering 71 sq nautical miles.

- Irina reviewed the Federal Register v.57, no. 182, September 18, 1992 that explains the three primary reasons the Exemption Area was formed. As part of the JMPR update, the GFNMS staff may facilitate a public process in the next 5 years to consider the Exemption Area be



included in MBNMS. Such an action would require changing the MBNMS designation document and require coordination with MBNMS staff, and approval from the MBNMS Superintendent.

- San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, City of Pacifica Mayor and City Council support inclusion of the Exemption Area.
- Irina recommended at the January 2006 the Advisory Council meeting there be a presentation on dredge disposal site and CCSF sewage treatment facility. She suggested a tour of a sewage treatment facility.
- A winter 2006-2007 date was recommended to organize a working group to analyze this issue.

Discussion:

- Richard Charter remembers that when the Exemption Area was designated, it was done at the last minute in creating the MBNMS. He pointed out the three reasons the Exemption Area was created should be reviewed again and evaluate if they are still valid.
- Brian O’Neill asked since there is a boundary expansion proposed, does it make sense that the Advisory Council re-look at the Exemption Area and consider today’s current issues and realities?
- Barbara Emley doesn’t want to have the Advisory Council act on anything until the Council is properly informed on the issues.
- Richard Charter is concerned that if the Advisory Council waits until Winter 2006-07 to establish a working group it, it may be too late.
- Brian O’Neill proposed a resolution to create an ad hoc working group review to report back to the Advisory Council to determine what the next steps will be.
- Brenda Donald volunteered to be the lead on the ad-hoc working group for the SF Exemption area.

Discussion:

- All agreed the MB and GF Advisory Councils should be collaborative on this issue.
- Steve Shimek will bring back this discussion to the MB Advisory Council.
- It was suggested the Advisory Council create an ad-hoc working group and have Brenda Donald be the organizer.

Action:

Motion: Richard Charter moved to establish an ad-hoc working group for the SF Exemption Area to better understand the issues. Brenda Donald will lead the working group and will report at the December MB and GF joint meeting with an update or initial progress and informational report.

Seconded by: Brian O’Neill, National Park Service

Vote: There was consensus to support the motion.

Motion passed.

MOTORIZED PERSONAL WATER CRAFT (MPWC)

Irina Kogan, Resource Protection Specialist, gave an overview of MPWC in the sanctuary.

- The presentation focused on the MPWC goal to minimize disturbance of wildlife and minimize conflicts of users.

- Current regulation states that operating MPWC is prohibited within the MBNMS except within 4 designated zones.
- An MPWC is defined as any motorized vessel < 15 ft in length, is capable of exceeding a speed of 15 knots, and has the capacity to carry not more than the operator and one other person while in operation.
- Irina explained that means 3+ seat MPWC are currently not prohibited in the sanctuary
- Currently MPWC are used for safety, media, photography, transportation and observation during the Mavericks Surf Contest.
- A short Mavericks video was shown; about 30,000 people attended the 2005 surfing contest.

Recommendation:

After the joint Management Plan is final, organize a working group, hold 3 meetings and develop a MPWC recommendation to present to the Farallones Sanctuary Advisory Council.

Discussion:

- Richard Charter requested maps of the areas along with information to further understand everyone's stake in the MPWC, such as the California Coastal Commission.
- Brenda Donald asked about the tow-in policy of the event. Irina stated it was a paddle- in only event and there is significant event promotion and sponsorship currently.
- Brian O'Neill asked what happens when it isn't an event, how do the surfers get out there. The surfers use the MPWC 3+ seat craft and sometimes there is conflict.
- No other areas were considered to be looked at for special permitting.
- Education, better labels and training of safety personnel were recommended.
- Steve Shimek, MBNMS liaison, pointed out that the MBNMS SAC and the working groups have been grappling with the MPWC, and it is still an issue for everyone. If there is the regulatory change it will eliminate the 3-person tow in.

No consensus was reached.

Lunch-Reconvened at 1:40 pm.

SAC OLD BUSINESS

Revised Charter

Discussion:

- Council reviewed the revised charter- that the MB and GF Advisory Councils communicate and work together.
- Chris Colburn asked if the idea was that the two charters say the same things in regards to working together and communicating? For example if the two SAC's jointly meet once a year what should both the charters say?
- As far as the Northern Management Are the MB Advisory Council Charter was passed out- with the proposed changes from MBNMS- and the new paragraph from GFNMS.

Maria Brown, Richard Charter and Brian O'Neill all stressed the importance of clarity in the charter. Anything Farallones Sanctuary can do to reinforce collaboration between the two sites is essential. The council does not want to revisit the wording in the future, or have any ambiguity.



General comments from the council were:

- Be more specific.
- Utilize the expertise within both sanctuaries.
- Language should reflect collaboration and consistency.
- Stick to the language from Dan Basta decision making document, and suggest both councils work from that base.

The change of the Charter's language is the following:

“As of 2004, the NMSP Director announced that the area within the Monterey Bay National Sanctuary (MBNMS) north of San Mateo/Santa Cruz county boundary, referred to as the Northern Management Area (NMA), would be administrated by GFNMS. The legal boundaries of each sanctuary remain as is. The GFNMS is responsible for developing and managing **full range** of the sanctuary programs within the NMA: with the exception that the MBNMS is responsible for the water Quality Protection Program. **GFNMS will coordinate closely with MBNMS on all merging and cross cutting issues to take advantage of expertise at the sites.**”

Discussion:

- Steve Shimek, Liaison from Monterey Bay NMS Advisory Council, pointed out that some MBNMS SAC members might have a problem with the wording. He agrees the Councils need to work together as collaborative boards for future issues. The two sanctuaries will be faced with critical issues and be stronger if working together.
- Maria Brown, Manager, asked Steve whether the wording of the charter reflects the fact that GF Advisory Council wants to collaborate and foster a closer working relationship with MBNMS SAC. Steve felt it had.

Recruitment Update

- Julie Barrow is out on medical leave and she was handling the recruitment process.
- Joanne Mohr has found a prospective person to handle the recruitment process who also has recruitment experience. If everything goes smoothly we still plan on staying to the timeline submitted last March. We are still targeted to replace the seats in January 2006.
- Alternates will be replaced also in January.

Advisory Council Retreat

October 13-14, 2005, Bodega Lodge, Bodega Bay.

Discussion:

Possible agenda items and requests for the retreat in October:

- Facilities Planning consultants will present recommendations and encourage comments from Advisory Council on the Farallones Sanctuary Facilities Master Plan.
- Discuss what the Advisory Council wants to have for yearly accomplishments.
- Presentation from Irina on the MLPA
- Bodega Marine Lab visit
- Estero Americano visit
- Bird walk in the marsh
- Northern Boundary proposal topic

National Sanctuary Advisory Council

Matrix handouts were given out and reviewed.

Discussion:

- Barbara Emley, Chair/Maritime Activities, indicated Dan Basta would like input on national issues. The National SAC would be a new council and the matrix sheet laid out different options. Dan Basta has tried to use the local SAC chairs, but is looking for other ways to get input.
- General discussion and questions came up as to who would be on the National SAC and how would they be appointed.
- Brian O'Neill, NPS indicated that the National Park Service has a similar body called the National Park Service Advisory Board that consists of twelve members with specific slots of expertise. They are picked because they are prominent in their fields and have experience dealing with broad issues. The work is carried out through a series of committees. Brian observed they are valuable bodies in rethinking the National Park System for the future and encouraging prominent Americans to give advice is positive and smart.
- Maria Brown and Barbara Emley both requested the Advisory Council review the matrix and come back to the January 2006 meeting with comments.

JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW UPDATE

Anne Walton, Management Plan Coordinator telephoned in and gave an overview of what has occurred since the last meeting and gave highlights:

- The Ecotrust project had a wrap up meeting in May with the fishing working group, others from the fishing community, and CA Fish and Game.
- The draft document is about to be completed at the end of July.
- Ecotrust has incorporated the Advisory Council's recommendations and changes in the draft document along with the CA Department of Fish and Game
- Reviewed the draft EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) time line and discussed the delays.

Discussion:

- Barbara Emley would like to have a small group meet to take a look at the Ecotrust draft.
- Schedule meeting with the Cordell Bank fishing working group.
- It was proposed to have an August meeting- Anne Walton will get back to the Advisory Council before next week to schedule a possible meeting in late August-September. Ann will put out a couple dates and contact Richard and Barbara.

Anne Walton continued with an update on the JMPR fishing proposal, and gave an overview of the status and described the Essential Fish Habitat designation.

- Essential Fish Habitat is a two-step process. The first is to designate areas for the central fish habitat, and levels of habitat concern, and create the regulatory language. Anne will be working with NMFS northwest office and CBNMS and MBNMS on that language.
- There are still some outstanding issues even if they do write a regulation that gives us the coverage that we want. That is, in regards to some problems that might result from the need for NMFS to provide the permits for any activity that takes place in or on the essential fish

habitat, so the group is trying to reconcile how to go ahead and conduct MB and CB research and not have a conflict about the research permit.

- It is anticipated NMFS will have a recommendation on the language of the regulation by September.
- This may have some impact on how the MLPA process moves forward.
- It does have an impact on the JMPR process because this decision has been holding up the DEIS. Anne stated they have not known whether to include the analysis in for a regulation pertaining to fishing proposed under the NMS Act or the Magnason – Stevenson Act for Cordell Bank. The group is coming close to resolution; final resolution may not be until September.
- No predictions when the DEIS will be released, it may be November but possibly sometime January 2006.
- The Draft Management Plan is completed and waiting to go to the printer, then it will be out for public comment, along with the DEIS.

Discussion:

- Bob Wilson, Conservation, pointed out you do not have to have every single issue as part of the whole plan. You can do these regulations separately. The JMPR is being held up one issue at a time and they are all regulatory.
- Richard Charter pointed out stakeholders and contingencies may be losing interested people, since this process began fifteen years ago.
- Anne Walton suggested the Advisory Council and GF staff brainstorm and work together as to how to keep the public and constituencies engaged.
- Anne Walton suggested the Advisory Council make a recommendation to the JMPR team and how to wrap up the process and move on to implementation.
- It was suggested a new date for printing not be announced publicly until it is confirmed, since the JMPR have been unable to meet previous deadlines.
- Richard Charter suggested the Advisory Council supports the MBNMS SAC letter to Dan Basta regarding the MPR.
- Maria requested if the Advisory Council has recommendations on how the sanctuary program can be more effective and efficient with management plans she would like to hear them for future MPR processes.

Action:

Motion: The GFNMS SAC endorses the basic positions set forth in the MBNMS SAC letter dated June 9, 2005 and that the National Marine Sanctuary Program consider separating the regulatory process from the management plan.

Moved by: Bob Wilson

Seconded by: Richard Charter, Conservation

Vote: The vote was unanimous to adopt and send

Upcoming Meetings:

2005-2006 Meeting Dates

October 13-14, 2005 Fall Retreat –Bodega Lodge



December 9, 2005	MBNMS Joint Meeting- Half Moon Bay
January 12, 2006	San Francisco- The Presidio
April 13, 2006	Red Barn, Pt. Reyes
July 13, 2006	Pacifica
October 19-20, 2006	Fall Retreat- tentatively
December 8, 2006	Joint MBNMS - Half Moon Bay

GFNMS Advisory Council Chair, Barbara Emley adjourned the meeting 3:15