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## **GULF OF THE FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY (GFNMS) ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

Half Moon Bay Yacht Club  
214 Princeton Ave. Half Moon Bay, CA 94019  
9: 15 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Wednesday August 20, 2014

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

### ***Copies to:***

Bill Douros, ONMS West Coast Regional Office  
Meeting called to order at: 9:35am

### **GFNMS Superintendent's Report**

Maria Brown recognized John Largier for 5 years of volunteering for the sanctuary; she also recognized Dominique Richard as GFNMS Volunteer of the Year

### ***Permits***

A research permit was issued to Matt Robart and John Largier (UC Davis) to install a new mooring and attached buoy in Tomales Bay, along the shoreline of Inverness (near Chicken Ranch) to collect meteorological and oceanographic data. Bodega Marine Lab has been conducting long-term monitoring on water quality in Tomales Bay and this new mooring will provide for a greater understanding of circulation patterns and water properties throughout the bay.

A research permit was issued to Ted Grosholz (UC Davis) to temporarily place a total of twenty concrete pavers in Tomales Bay with approximately 20 recruit native Olympia oysters on each paver to study the effects of estuarine acidification and potential consequences for native oyster restoration. The project will run 2 years and ten pavers will be placed each summer for up to three (3) months, anchored with rebar, and removed at the end of the season.

A research permit was issued to Jason Sadowski (UC Davis) to temporarily place 20 enclosures constructed from PVC pipe and mesh at one intertidal site in Tomales Bay to study the interactive effects of biological invasions and climate change on trophic cascades.

A research permit was issued to Gerry McChesney(USFWS) to conduct low overflights at the Farallon Islands for the purpose of surveying northern fur seal rookeries. Aerial surveys will be conducted between mid-July and late August each year. Two surveys will be flown in 2014 and one survey will be flown each year in 2015 and 2016.



A research permit was issued to Ted Grosholz (UC Davis) to deploy traps once a month at three sites in Bolinas Lagoon to capture invasive European green crabs. The goal of the project is to continue to try and assess the success of regional green crab eradication efforts at various sites between Elkhorn Slough and Bodega Bay; this sampling work specifically is tracking the local eradication project being implemented at Seadrift in Bolinas Lagoon.

An education permit application from James Moskito (Great White Adventures) is under review to attract white sharks at the Farallon Islands for education purposes as part of ecotourism charters for the public.

A management permit application from Grace Kato (State Lands Commission) is under review to authorize the California State Lands Commission to implement the Tomales Bay Vessel Mooring Program, which was established as part of the Tomales Bay Vessel Management Plan developed by GFNMS in partnership with State Lands. The program sets a limit on the number of moorings and includes specific criteria for mooring locations, required specifications for mooring tackle, and requirements for the inspection and maintenance of moorings. The permit would be good for 10 years to coincide with the CSLC's 10-year lease period.

A research permit application from Pat Conroy (SFPUC) is under review requesting a renewal of their sanctuary permit to collect up to 50 sediment samples at 15 different sites within GFNMS and MBNMS, between Point San Pedro and Rocky Point, as part of the long-term monitoring program to assess effects from the Southwest Ocean Outfall (SWOO) which discharges off of Ocean Beach in San Francisco.

A research permit application from Ted Grosholz (UC Davis) is under review requesting an amendment to a permit to use non-natives oysters to study acidification effects in Tomales Bay.

A management permit application from Marin DPW is under review to make repairs to 126 linear feet of an existing seawall that runs along the edge of Wharf Road, at the interface of the road with Bolinas Lagoon by attaching 1-inch-thick steel plates along portions of the wall to be secured to through a system of tie backs connected to piers drilled down into the middle of the roadway.

A research permit application from Tessa Hill (UC Davis) is under review to temporarily moor sensors and other equipment in Tomales Bay around four discrete seagrass beds in order to study seagrass effects on estuarine acidification and specifically to evaluate how carbonate chemistry changes throughout an estuary and to investigate the possibility of using seagrass to mitigate the effects of acidification.

A research permit application from James Delgado (NOAA Marine Heritage Program) is under review requesting a permit to perform survey activities on the sailing ship Oxford, which sank in Tomales Bay in 1852.



### ***Boat Groundings***

A 30-foot panga grounded at the north end of Pescadero Creek Beach on May 12, 2014 also on State Park lands. The vessel had 125-150 gallons of fuel onboard which was contained and removed by Vessel Assist without any spill. Since 30 bricks of marijuana (valued at over 1 million dollars) were found in a Suburban van stuck in the sand next to the parking lot, HSI did seize this panga for evidenciary purposes. SMC Sheriff helped HSI tow the boat up the beach using a front end loader and they removed it that same night.

A 30-foot sailboat grounded at Frenchman's Reef within the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve on May 18, 2014, in Wahleman Harbor, just north of Ross' Cove and the Mavericks Surf break. The Pillar Point Harbormaster's Office was able to tow the boat off the rocks and back into the harbor the same day.

A 35-foot bayliner recreational boat grounded on Bean Hollow State Beach on May 23, 2014. The boat operator made a distress call to the USCG claiming he hit a whale; no whale was ever seen by any of the 5 people onboard though or any other agency responders. It took the USCG and NRC (contractor) longer than normal to get to the fuel off due to rough seas, but by May 25<sup>th</sup>, 125 gallons had been removed from an in-board tank; no fuel spill was observed. Luckily, this was a rare case where the boat operator had marine insurance and his claim covered the entire cost of the salvage. On May 26<sup>th</sup> Parker Diving brought in a crane to pull the boat out of the surf-zone onto the back beach, cut it into smaller pieces, and removed the boat via flatbed truck.

A 17-foot bayliner recreational boat grounded at Pescadero on July 30, 2014, this time not on State Parks land but adjacent to a private residence. The boat operator reported that he ran out of fuel so the USCG did not respond. All 4 people onboard made it safely to shore and the boat ended up grounded on a sandy pocket beach surrounded by rocky bluffs adjacent to a private residence. The boat operator had no marine insurance, but did intend to remove the vessel by cutting it up into small pieces and recruiting friends to carry it away. However, he could not provide NOAA with an adequate salvage plan or liability insurance and the property owner refused him access across her property. NOAA funded the removal and contracted Parker Diving to remove the boat using a boom truck on August 12.

So far we've had 6 groundings within the GFNMS Mgmt area in FY13: 5 were in the northern management area of MBNMS and 2 of those were pangas.

### ***White Shark Naturalist Training***

On Saturday August 9, 2014, the GFNMS staff hosted its annual White Shark Naturalist Training for permitted white shark tour operators and their onboard naturalists who conduct educational trips within the sanctuary. Participants were provided with information about the sanctuary's White Shark Stewardship Project, the importance of White Shark protection, other wildlife resources within the sanctuary, and how to be good interpreters and effectively engage the public. They were also treated to presentations by White Shark researcher Sal Jorgesen (from Monterey Bay Aquarium) and conservation expert David McGuire (from Shark Stewards) discussing new research on White Sharks, current threats



to sharks, and ongoing conservation efforts.

***Formal Response to SAC Report on Ship Strikes and Acoustics***

Please see: [http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14\\_08/shipstrike\\_update.pdf](http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14_08/shipstrike_update.pdf)

***Synopsis of Northern Management Area Activities***

Please see: [http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14\\_08/northernmanagementarea.pdf](http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14_08/northernmanagementarea.pdf)

**MBNMS Superintendent's Report**

Acoustics - Developed new collaboration on a Monterey Soundscape with MBARI, MLML, Naval Post-Grad School, and Hopkins Marine Station (contact; Andrew DeVogelaere)

MBON - (Marine Biodiversity Observatory Network) proposal received grant funding! This is a joint project with University of South Florida, MBARI, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Center for Ocean Solutions, FKNMS, NMFS La Jolla, CeNCOOS- funded to address Sanctuary Sentinel Sites and Condition Reports; \$ 7.4 million over 5 years.(Andrew DeVogelaere)

Sur Ridge Exploration - Developed collaboration with MBARI for characterization and deep coral biology at the Sur Ridge SESA; resulting in \$ 270,000 in ship and ROV time donated for Sanctuary use. Recent cruise resulted in some amazing coral communities and cold seeps discovered.(Andrew DeVogelaere)

West Coast Research Coordinators Mtg - West Coast site research leads met in Monterey end of July. developing a west coast research plan

Draft EA for CalAm slant test well project - MBNMS staff developed an EA for CalAm test wells that are proposed to draw salt water from beneath the sanctuary for desalination. The wells would be at the CEMEX plant in Marina. The test is to see if wells can produce enough salt water to make a desal plant feasible. (contact: Karen Grimmer)

Superintendent Statements on whales and drones - recent proliferation of whales feeding in nearshore and human interactions and/or disturbances prompted a statement to advise safe distances; recent drone activity and reports of wildlife disturbance prompted a statement warning drone users of MMPA and MBNMS low overflight regulations (contact: Karen Grimmer)

Monterey Beach SportFest - First annual beach sportsfest to connect beach/ocean recreation and sports with MBNMS - October 4-5.

- Two-person Beach Volleyball
- Ocean Water Polo
- Open-water swims: .5-mile, 1-mile and 2.5 mile
- Splash and Dash (Swim/Run)
- The "Ikaika" (ee-ky-kuh) Challenge (Multi-Sport activity: Swim/Strength/Run, long and short courses)



In addition, there is a two-day Expo featuring booths celebrating the oceans as well as human wellness. Event highlights also include a beer garden, food trucks and beach activities including beach yoga and kayak or paddleboard demonstrations. A landing of Hawaiian outriggers will also occur on Saturday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. For more information or registration, please visit Monterey Beach Sportfest's [website](#), or call Deirdre Whalen at [\(831\) 647-4207](tel:8316474207)

## **BREAK**

**NOAA's Maritime Heritage Program: Wreck of the City of Chester**  
[http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14\\_08/maritime\\_heritage.pdf](http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14_08/maritime_heritage.pdf)

## **Member Reports:**

Elizabeth Babcock: Committee formed of educators and institutions in the Bay Area to find out what the environmental education road map is for the state of CA. Change View, which some sanctuary education staff participate in will discuss how to increase the profile of environmental education in the Bay Area. Any ideas or suggestions are welcome.

Bibit Traut: I recently met with the Sanctuary education team to discuss upcoming education initiatives.

Jaime Jahncke: Jaime presented an update on the ACCESS cruises, which can be found at this link: [http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14\\_08/jahncke\\_update.pdf](http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14_08/jahncke_update.pdf)

Anne Morkill: US Fish and Wildlife Service has focused outreach and education efforts on wilderness and the Wilderness Act and linked in the anniversary of the Farallones Wilderness areas and the Farallones Refuge. Some funds and assessment are ongoing for mouse eradication on the islands; we don't expect the EIS or assessments to be ready for several months. Northern fur seal population is currently approx. 636; pupping season went well.

John Largier: There was an anomalous extreme warming event in July. There was also a hypoxic event at Cordell and we're trying to see how much of it is getting into Tomales Bay and SF Bay.

Several conferences are coming up, including the Bay Delta Science Conference Oct 28-30, CA Estuaries and AGU December in SF. Beyond the Golden Gate Symposium will not happen in November this year, but we need to get it together.

The West Coast Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Science Panel has been formed to better understand hypoxia and what does it mean for policy and management.

Russian River NOAA habitat blueprint is moving forward.

Barbara Emley: The region experienced a lot of upwelling in May and June- the fishing is pretty

normal. Boats are focusing on Marin coast, catching fish that are going upriver. Halibut were running in Tomales.

Richard Charter: pass

Dominique Richard: There is community concern about concentration of squid fishing, seeing fishing off Pt. Reyes from the north. The concern is that the squid fishing interferes with the salmon fishery and that it interferes with the murre and other birds. Can the sanctuary get the squid fishery further offshore? Barbara Emley said that wouldn't work. The Tomales Bay community is concerned over Marshall Boatworks and water quality issues associated with them.

Kellyx Nelson: The San Mateo Resource Conservation District is finding a lot of misunderstandings coming out of water quality studies related to dog waste. It is true that our work shows dog waste but this is not coming from dogs at beaches. Rather, it's from people's back yards. We're putting together a webpage about how to deal with dog waste in the landscape, including private yards. The RCD will do storm tracking and tell dog owners to clean their back yards before the waste becomes runoff.

RCD is partnering with the MBNMS for first flush water quality monitoring. Recruiting volunteers right now. When there is a first flush storm, we will see some big numbers when the first flush occurs. Probably worst case scenario because of the drought and accumulation of p. Training Harbor staff to do water sampling; Irina Kogan helping develop a spill response prevention plan for Pillar Point Harbor and trying to get the beach de-listed.

Kellyx often represents the land-based aspect of what impacts the marine environment, and the RCD is getting a \$4M grant that was pitched as drought relief. It will get SM county park off the creek for water; providing farms with changes in water rights and to not irrigate from Pescadero and San Gregorio creeks during anadromous fish season; providing them with storage options for water instead of creek withdrawal. Within next couple of months we'll release a report on the flooding of Pescadero creek and this has to do with floodplain issues and we're finding that the flooding is closely tied to fish passage and the watershed and habitat restoration; trying to reengage the community to find solutions to the fish kill issue in Pescadero.

Lastly a lot of the work the RCD doing is in the role of agriculture in carbon sequestration and climate change; might need a forum or working group looking at the actions and practices farming does that contributes to CC, but there are some easy solutions to help stop this like using compost on rangelands.

Bob Wilson: FMSA has an event with Jane Lubchenko this November and is working to expand its programs into the proposed expansion area.

The anomaly in temperatures in SoCal affected the sea lions and pelican counts there and in Baja; lots of sea lion pups rescued for malnutrition due to lack of food there. Additionally, there is a lot of red tide caused by the warmer temperatures and an influx of nutrients there, as well as reports of domoic acid issues.



George Clyde: Marin RCD is announcing the successful conclusion of an 8-year permitting for Pine Gulch Creek to allow farmers to give up their water rights during summer in exchange for water capture during the winter. This should be ready for implementation early next year. Additionally, the Sanctuary Business Advisory Council has some big industry names working with the sanctuaries; I'm meeting with them this fall to see what they're up to and will report back.

Bruce Bowser: The Rocky Shore Naturalists are trying to work with Marin Parks to get more regulations in place for Duxbury Reef. They're trying to get it up to marine reserve status; that involves getting additional local docents and local residents to take an active hand in overseeing the reef. Additionally, a marine debris survey is scheduled for this coming Friday at South Beach in Pt. Reyes National Seashore. Finally, the Bolinas Museum is doing an ocean wonders and wellness exhibit that I'm involved with this fall; I'm leading a tide pool exhibition this November/October and the proceeds go to them.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **LUNCH**

### **Climate Smart Adaptation for the North-Central CA Coast and Ocean: Vulnerability Assessment Results**

Presentation available at: [http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14\\_08/adaptation.pdf](http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14_08/adaptation.pdf)

#### Discussion:

Maria Brown added that this project would receive funding from Department of the Interior to serve as a model for LCC for the marine region; at the Michigan meeting we're recommending our center become a Center for Excellence on climate change, where sites take leadership roles for expertise on related climate change issues.

Additionally, there were discussions about the meaning of the term "nature-based", as well as how adaptation and mitigation are (and are not) related.

#### **Request for working group (Action Item)**

**Anne Morkill put forward a motion to form the adaptation working group.**

**Motion: Anne Morkill**

**Second: Kellyx Nelson**

**Vote: All in favor, motion passes.**

Anne Morkill volunteered to serve as chair.

SAC Members interested in serving on the working group: Bibit Traut, Jaime Jahncke, John



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Largier and Kellyx Nelson. The first meeting will be in January 2015.

### **Report on SAC Summit**

#### ***Joint Call to Action (Action Item)***

George Clyde made a motion to support this call to action from MPA Federal Advisory Committee and the National Marine Sanctuary ACs.

**Motion:** George Clyde

**Second:** Bob Wilson

**Vote:** All in favor, one abstention (Barbara Emley). Motion passes.

The SAC had a discussion about the tension between encouraging recreation and tourism and protecting the environment when visitors are overwhelming the area.

### **BREAK**

### **Advisory Council Business**

#### ***Approve Meeting Notes for May 2014 (Action Item)***

Richard Charter motioned for passage of the May Joint meeting notes.

**Motion:** Richard Charter

**Second:** Bob Wilson

**Vote:** 2 abstentions, none opposed. Motion passes.

Elizabeth Babcock motioned for the passage of the May GFNMS only meeting notes.

**Motion:** Elizabeth Babcock

**Second:** Anne Morkill

**Vote:** 2 abstentions, none opposed. Motion passes.

#### ***Fireworks Subcommittee Updated***

Richard Charter reported out for the subcommittee, stating that the group figured they should address this since some communities are very attached to firework shows (Bodega Bay, Gualala, Pt. Arena) and the noise, light and chemistry were looked at to determine the main effects, particularly disturbances of birds. The subcommittee research and expertise found that the finales of fireworks shows really disturb the seabirds but ultimately concluded that issuing the existing Special Use Permit authority for fireworks can be modified to include better adaptive management strategies (case-by-case) and can be included under existing permitting authority.

#### ***Report on MB/GF Officer's Meeting***

Dominique gave a summary of the topics covered in the MB/GF Officer's Meeting, including Standard Operating Procedures and protocols for SAC meetings, the pros and cons of large councils, and creating "senior" advisors from past SAC members.

### **Expansion Discussion**

#### ***Summary of Comments and Update on Process***

Presentation available at: [http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14\\_08/expansion.pdf](http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/14_08/expansion.pdf)

Bob Wilson moves to pass a “Sense of the SAC” statement on the proposed expansion.

*“It is the sense of the SAC that the SAC will proactively establish and move forward with working groups as needed to address unresolved issues in the proposed sanctuary boundary expansion and make recommendations to the sanctuary superintendent, regional director and director of ONMS.”*

Motion: Richard Charter

Second: Bob Wilson

Vote: 5 in favor. 1 abstention. Motion passes.

**ADJOURN** 4:06pm



Attendance

<b>NAME</b>	<b>SEAT</b>	<b>P/A</b>
Dominique Richard [Council Chair]	Public-At-Large Marin/Sonoma	P
Richard Kuehn	Public-At-Large Marin/Sonoma-Alt	A
Kellyx Nelson	Public At-Large SF/San Mateo	P
Vacant	Public At-Large SF/San Mateo Alternate	
Catherine Kuhlman	CA Ocean Protection Council	A
Vacant	CA OPC Alternate	
Richard Charter [Council Vice-Chair]	Conservation	P
Bruce Bowser	Conservation Alternate	P
Bob Wilson	Conservation	P
Jackie Dragon	Conservation Alternate	A
Elizabeth Babcock	Education	P
Bibit Traut	Education Alternate	P
Barbara Emley [Council Secretary]	Maritime Activities/ Commercial	P
Peter Grenell	Maritime Activities/Commercial Alternate	A
Mick Menigoz	Maritime Activities/Recreational	A
George Clyde	Maritime Activities/Recreational Alternate	P
John Largier	Research	P
Jaime Jahncke	Research Alternate	P
Caleb Rosen	Youth Primary	P
August Howell	Youth Alternate	P
Cicely Muldoon	National Park Service	A
Frank Dean	National Park Service Alternate	A
Anne Morkill	USFWS	P
Gerry McChesney	USFWS Alternate	A
Joe Giammanco	USCG	A



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Shannon Anthony	USCG Alternate	A
Pat Rutten	NMFS [non-voting]	A
Natalie-Constantino Manning	NMFS Alternate [non-voting]	A
Maria Brown	GFNMS [non-voting]	P
Chris Mobley	CINMS [non-voting]	A
Mike Murray	CINMS Alternate [non-voting]	A
Dan Howard	CBNMS [non-voting]	A
Michael Carver	CBNMS Alternate [non-voting]	A
Paul Michel	MBNMS [non-voting]	A
Dawn Hayes	MBNMS Alternate [non-voting]	A