

Sanctuary Advisory Council

CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Member/Alternate

Tourism

Kathleen Fitzgerald / Andrea Mills

Business

Capt. Richard McKenna / <vacant>

Non-Consumptive Recreation

Debra Herring / Perry Ferguson

Commercial Fishing

Bruce Steele / <vacant>

Recreational Fishing

Capt. David Bacon / Merit McCrea

Education

Maria Petueli / <vacant>

Research

Dr. Robert Warner / Dr. Mark Steele

Conservation

Linda Krop / Greg Helms

Public At-Large 1

Phyllis Grifman / Amy Spandrio

Public At-Large 2

Eric Kett / Dan Powell

Chumash Community

Jacy Ontiveros / <vacant>

National Marine Fisheries Service

Peter Fischel / Elizabeth Petras

National Park Service

Russell Galipeau / <vacant>

U.S. Coast Guard

CDR Jason Collins / LTJG Brittany Steward

Minerals Management Service

Donna Schroeder / Dr. Ann Bull

U.S. Department of Defense

John Ugoretz / Walter Schobel

California Department of Fish and Game

Marija Vojkovich / Kristine Barsky

California Resources Agency

Brian Baird / Amy Vierra

California Coastal Commission

Steve Hudson / Barbara Carey

County of Santa Barbara

Dianne Black / Susan Curtis

County of Ventura

Lyn Krieger / Marilyn Miller

Channel Islands Nat'l Marine Sanctuary

Chris Mobley

Monterey Bay Nat'l Marine Sanctuary

Paul Michel / Karen Grimmer

Gulf of the Farallones Nat'l Marine Sanctuary

Maria Brown / Brian Johnson

Chair

Eric Kett

Vice Chair

Bruce Steele

Secretary

Phyllis Grifman

January 28, 2010

Dean Steven Gaines

Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management

2400 Bren Hall, University of California Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara, California 93106-5131

Re: Support for Proposed Student Group Project

Dear Dean Gaines:

The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (Sanctuary) Advisory Council is a 21-member body that brings together community members and representatives from various government agencies to advise the Sanctuary Superintendent and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration. The Sanctuary's mission is to provide long term protection to its nationally significant marine resources, while facilitating compatible human uses. We write to express support for a group project being submitted for consideration by Bren students Ms. Sarah Amspacher, Ms. Sarah Green, and Ms. Kate Labrum.

Following the unprecedented death of several blue whales during 2007 within the Santa Barbara Channel, at least four of which were confirmed to have involved ship strikes, the Advisory Council embarked upon a public process aimed at addressing ship-strike threats to large cetaceans. In September 2009, the Advisory Council delivered to the Sanctuary Superintendent a unanimously supported set of science, education and management recommendations designed to help reduce the risk of ship strikes. Ms. Amspacher, Ms. Green, and Ms. Labrum have developed a proposed Bren Group Project to support Sanctuary staff in further consideration of the Advisory Council's recommendations. The Group Project would synthesize information on ships and ship traffic in the Santa Barbara Channel, quantify the costs to commercial shipping of voluntary and mandatory management options, and include a Cost Benefit Analysis of these options. This project proposal is supported by the Sanctuary Advisory Council because we believe it can make a significant contribution toward the Sanctuary's mission. Please consider our support, and we hope to be able to work with the Bren students and their colleagues.

Sincerely,

Eric Kett, Chair

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

cc: Chris Mobley, Superintendent, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary