

**CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
2014 Work Topic Priorities for Sanctuary Advisory Council Activities¹**

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Possible SAC Activities</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Priority: High, Medium, Low²</i>
A. <u>EXTERNAL SUPPORT for SANCTUARY</u>			
A1. Marketing, Travel & Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC Marketing Subcommittee to reconvene; develop additional advice focused on enhancing the visibility and marketability of the sanctuary, and contributing to the sustainability of sanctuary programs. Specifically to include (suggested by Michael Cohen): Exploring how visitor donations can be taken in and reaching a goal of 5000 fans on CINMS Facebook page. • Recommend sanctuary actions to enhance visitor awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of the sanctuary in a manner that is consistent with resource protection and sanctuary stewardship. • Council consideration and adoption of Marketing Subcommittee recommendations, assistance with implementation as appropriate. 		H
B. <u>SHIP-RELATED ISSUES</u>			
B1. Marine Shipping Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of Marine Shipping Working Group, which would develop locally-based recommendations on how to: 1) Reduce the risk of ship strikes on endangered whales; 2) Decrease air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions; 3) Improve navigational safety and promote efficient maritime shipping throughout the region; 4) Manage ship traffic to minimize Naval operation interruptions and reduce conflicts with other ocean users. • Council to provide guidance and feedback to the working group throughout the year. 		H

¹ Based on a survey of 24 council members initiated at the Jan. 24th, 2014 SAC meeting.

² “High” priority topics are those that the Executive Committee will work to get on SAC meeting agendas at least once. “Medium priority topics may be placed on a SAC meeting agenda if time and opportunity allows. “Low” priority topics are unlikely to be placed on SAC meeting agendas in a significant way (unless circumstances change).

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C. ENERGY PROJECTS			
C1. Offshore Wind and Wave Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to learn from invited speakers (e.g., UCSB Bren School student group) about technologies, stakeholder views, and marine environmental issues associated with offshore wind and wave energy. • When delivered to the council, review, discuss, help revise, and take action on a Conservation Working Group offshore wind/wave energy report. 	Review of wind/wave energy report eliminated as an activity at the request of CWG Chair Kristi Birney.	L
D. FISHERIES / FISHING EDUCATION			
D1. Education and Outreach on Fishing in CINMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite fishing representatives (commercial & recreational) to provide educational talks to the council. For example, learn about (and consider supporting) direct marketing of locally caught seafood (Stephanie Mutz). • Advise and assist with implementation of the 2014 Sanctuary Classic recreational fishing and photography contest. 		M
E. MARINE PROTECTED AREAS (MPAs)			
E1. Biological & Socioeconomic monitoring of Channel Islands MPAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hear from scientists that have been conducting monitoring in and around the Channel Islands MPAs. • Research Activities Panel annual characterization of biological monitoring efforts, gaps and needs. 		H
E2. MPA Education & Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanctuary Education Team (SET) to recommend to the SAC updated messaging, suggested audiences, and communication tools regarding Channel Islands MPAs. • Council to hear from and talk with leadership from the Santa Barbara Channel Marine Protected Area Collaborative. 		H

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<u>F. CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS</u>			
F1. Ocean Acidification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff progress reports on implementation of the sanctuaries' west coast action plan on Ocean Acidification and follow-up activities coming out of the 2012 "Best Practices for Communicating Ocean Acidification" workshop. • Ongoing updates, discussion and council/staff education on the latest work to advance understanding, education and responses to ocean acidification. • Council advice on action plan implementation and other possible sanctuary actions. 		H
<u>G. YOUTH INVOLVEMENT</u>			
G1. Student Group Involvement with SET/SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council's Sanctuary Education Team (SET), with help from staff, to connect a local area student group to the advisory council and provide mentorship on a student project. 		M
<u>H. ADDITIONAL TOPICS / ACTIVITIES SUGGESTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS</u>			
H1. Chumash Community Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive information about the concept of a Chumash Demonstration Village and Education facility for Chumash cultural use and public cultural and ocean stewardship education. • Learn about a proposed "Ocean For Life"-style field studies program for tribal youth. • Council discussion and consideration of expressing support for these initiatives. • Learn more about a Northern Chumash Tribal Council proposal for a new sanctuary off the San Luis Obispo coast (suggested by Bob Warner). 	<p>First three bullet-points suggested by Luhui Isha Waiya.</p> <p>4th bullet-point suggested by Bob Warner.</p>	M
H2. Responsible Wildlife Watching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring in speakers on this topic (e.g., involved agency officials). Topics could include disturbances to seabirds, dolphins, and other wildlife. Emphasize the "Responsibly Watching California's Marine Wildlife" guidelines (http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/outreach/pdfs/wildlife_watching_handbook.pdf) 	Suggested by Debra Herring.	L

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H3. Monitor efforts on habitat enhancement (reefing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite speakers to talk about habitat enhancement, improved recreational opportunities, water quality improvement, links to ocean acidification mitigation, and wildlife enhancement. 	Suggested by Capt. David Bacon.	L
H4. Citizen Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the possibilities of “adopt-a-beach” type of volunteer activities (e.g., similar to GFNMS Beach Watch program). Not just for some island shores, but mainland beaches too. Check into Beach Combers program in Santa Barbara • Update/presentation on the Channel Islands Naturalist Corps program, including their citizen science contributions. • Hear from staff about and/or guests about: LIMPETS program (findings, patterns, etc.); Marine debris programs; need for citizen-reported whale sightings; MPA Watch program, etc. • Learn about the use of citizen science compared to traditional science. 	Suggestions on this category made by by Jonna Engel, Vic Cox, Merit McCrea and others.	M
H5. Channel Islands National Park General Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive a follow-up report on the Park’s General Management Plan as it takes shape and is finalized. 		L
H6. Research Directions and Priorities for CINMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage the council’s Research Activities Panel (RAP) in developing recommendations on research needs that the sanctuary can/should focus on, including considerations of staffing. 	Suggested by Mark Steele.	H