

CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
2019 Sanctuary Advisory Council Topics of Interest and Potential Management Plan Issues

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Possible SAC Activities</i>	<i>Council Member Notes & Comments</i>	<i>Council Meeting Priority¹</i>	<i>Potential Management Plan Issue²</i>
A. <u>MARKETING, TRAVEL & TOURISM</u>				
A1. Get Into Your Sanctuary event	a) SAC Marketing Subcommittee and SAC to learn about and provide advice for improving success with CINMS participation in an ONMS Get Into Your Sanctuary weekend event, August 3-4, 2019.			
A2. Social media	a) SAC Marketing Subcommittee Chair to continue to recommend ways to improve the reach of CINMS social media posts.			
B. <u>SHIPPING-RELATED ISSUES</u>				
B1. Vessel Speed Reduction	a) Learn about plans, implementation and results of the 2019 Vessel Speed Reduction (VSR) program; discuss and advise on the future direction of this program.	<i>"Good one from the standpoint of the sustainability of the program"- K. Louttit</i> <i>"With 10 whales killed in 2018, this has to continue to be a major topic of critical concern. To me this is a violation of the marine mammal protection act and the endangered species act" – T. Knight</i>	M	8/18
B2. Benioff Ocean Initiative	a) Receive a report (or reports) from principle investigators funded by the Benioff Ocean Initiative that have been working to implement technologies to help locate blue whales in the Santa Barbara Channel and report detections in near-real time. Provide advice to CINMS, particularly for management plan purposes, regarding pursuing/supporting this line of research and technology.	<i>Staff note: Along with hearing about the VSR program, learning about these projects helps the council understand progress that has been made since the council's Marine Shipping Working Group provided a range of ideas for addressing issues associated with ships and whales.</i> <i>"This is a good follow up to the MSWG" – K. Louttit</i>		3/18

¹ This worksheet was completed individually by 18 advisory council members between March 15 and April 19, 2019. The high (H) and medium (M) level ratings were tabulated based on the extent of interest shown in listed topics by participating members. High priority (H) are those that the Executive Committee will work to place on SAC meeting agendas. Other items listed might still be placed on a SAC meeting agenda, should circumstances change, or could be worked on in other settings, such as council working group meetings. The council's Executive Committee is always open to considering items not listed here.

² Eighteen advisory council members individually marked which issues they felt were potentially appropriate to be considered within the initial scope of issues to be evaluated/considered as part of the sanctuary's upcoming management plan revision process. The tabulated results are shown in this column as the number of individuals that marked an issue out of the 18 total respondents.

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C. <u>SANCTUARY CONDITION REPORT</u>				
C1. Condition Report: Vol 2	a) Learn from Vol. 2 of the new CINMS Condition Report, expected in May 2019. To include a first-ever ecosystem services assessment at CINMS, a special Chumash community-authored ecosystem values report, and an overview of sanctuary management actions taken over the past 10 years. Use this information (along with findings from Vol. 1 of the Condition Report) in consideration of advising CINMS on management plan update priorities.	<i>"Very important we get this viewpoint (Chumash) since it is one the average person is not aware of." K. Louttit</i>	H	6/18
D. <u>SEAFLOOR MAPPING & DEEPWATER HABITAT</u>				
D1. Seafloor Mapping	a) Receive staff updates/presentations on continued efforts in 2019 to increase coverage of high-resolution mapping of the seafloor in CINMS and adjacent areas , including new techniques for mapping very shallow nearshore areas. Discuss management plan significance and other values of this growing body of available seafloor habitat data.	<i>"D1 is necessary pre-condition to D2?" – G. Helms</i>		5/18
D2. Deepwater Habitat	a) Council to hear and learn from scientists working within CINMS to explore, monitor and sample deep sea coral habitats.			5/18
E. <u>FISHERIES & FISHING</u>				
E1. Education about Fishing	a) Fishing representatives (commercial & recreational) to propose and help arrange educational talks to the council designed to elevate our understanding of Channel Islands-based fishing opportunities, practices, resources, fisheries, local businesses, etc. b) Invite/request periodic reports from the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife on state fisheries developments that are relevant to CINMS waters, as well as the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding federal fisheries.	<i>We've done some of this now, very informative but how many people can we get to come? – P. Griffman</i>	H	6/18

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F. MARINE PROTECTED AREAS (MPAs)				
F1. Biological & Socioeconomic Monitoring of Channel Islands MPAs	a) If any significant new information becomes available, hear from scientists that have been conducting marine reserve monitoring or studies, including socioeconomics, in/around the CINMS. b) Radar pilot project, Phase 2/3 – Learn more about, and provide input/feedback on, the sanctuary’s ongoing work with UCSB’s Mechanical Engineering Dept. and other partners to use an enhanced marine radar system to improve monitoring of vessel use patterns in/around MPAs.	<i>“In reviewing the data over many years the MPA is showing an increase in biomass, diversity, and resilience. It is critical this monitoring and research continues and the public made aware of it.” – T. Knight.</i>	H	7/18
F2. MPA Education	a) Hear from the Santa Barbara Channel MPA Collaborative group (which several SAC members are part of), to learn about new education and outreach activities and opportunities relevant to the Channel Islands MPAs as well as mainland coast MPAs.			3/18
F3. MPA Reporting	a) Council to learn about, and provide input on, plans for CINMS to participate in an expected report-out/conference-type event in 2020 that will focus on state MPAs within southern California, including those at the Channel Islands.	<i>“People I talk to at the dive clubs are really interested in this” – T. Knight</i>	M	1/18
G. CLIMATE CHANGE				
G1. Ocean Acidification (OA)	a) Council to learn about the latest ocean acidification monitoring and science experiments being set up within and adjacent to CINMS (consider invitation to UCSB Hofmann lab), and an update on OA education/communication activities from CINMS staff (L. Francis).	<i>“We need to develop a broader and deeper understanding of this” – T. Knight</i>	M	9/18
G2. Sea level rise	a) Council to hear about sea level rise forecasts for the CINMS, and discuss plans for adaptation. (Possible speakers to consider inviting: Stephen Whittaker, Channel Islands National Park, or Julia)		H	7/18
G3. Other changing conditions & effects	a) Learn more about trends with Harmful Algal Blooms, the effects/likelihood of warm water anomalies, diseases affecting marine species, and other changing conditions. Discuss and consider management implications.		H	8/18

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H. ENFORCEMENT				
H1. Enforcement	a) Invite, hear from, and ask questions to the NOAA Office of General Counsel for Enforcement (Paul Ortiz, Attorney) about processing of sanctuary cases, and the NOAA Office for Law Enforcement (plus CDFW, and NPS) about progress hiring more enforcement officers and agents in our area.	<i>"Unfortunately, we can't have a voluntary marine sanctuary. Strict enforcement with meaningful penalties re necessary to protect the sanctuary resources, including the economic resources – it would be nice to be worried about fish too!" – T. Knight</i> <i>DFG/NPS/Sanctuaries same as A – M. McCrea</i>		6/18
I. NON-NATIVE SPECIES				
I1. Undaria and Sargassum	a) Council to continue to receive field reports concerning the sighting of <i>Undaria</i> within sanctuary and park waters. b) Council to receive updates and provide feedback on staff efforts to raise awareness and conduct outreach about invasive algae with local harbor officials and boaters.		H	9/18
J. NOISE / SOUND				
J1. Noise Monitoring/Acoustic Detections	a) Learn about the sanctuary's soundscape: types and levels of biological and human noise, implications for impacts and management. b) Learn from researchers at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (Mark Baumgartner) about use of passive acoustic detection of blue whales in the Santa Barbara Channel.			8/18
K. MARINE DEBRIS				
K1. Shoreline Debris	a) Learn about and provide feedback on ongoing efforts to reduce marine debris accumulation on CINMS shorelines.	<i>This is an important issue especially as it relates to entanglement of marine life in commercial fishing gear. Plastic pollution is another serious matter" – T. Knight</i>	M	7/18
L. OFFSHORE ENERGY				
L1. Platform Decommissioning	a) Receive updates on offshore oil platform decommissioning processes; consider and discuss any potential future implications for the sanctuary environment.	<i>Particularly Grace, Gail; nearby platforms (the most "fishy") – G. Helms</i> <i>This is a good one because of the tension between "get rid of it" and "it's a habitat" – K. Louttit</i>	M	6/18

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L2. Offshore Oil & Gas Lease Sales	a) Track and share information about possible future oil and gas lease sales in the Santa Barbara Channel area; consider and discuss potential future implications for the sanctuary environment.			7/18
L3. Offshore Renewable Energy	a) Renewable energy project proposals in the vicinity of the sanctuary (e.g. wind and wave energy)	<i>"I like L2 and L3 because they look to the future" – K. Louttit</i>		3/18
<u>M. SANCTUARY MANAGEMENT PLAN</u>				
M1. Process Orientation and Pre-scoping discussions	a) Learn about and provide feedback on a planned process for development of the next CINMS management plan, including the advisory council's role, opportunities for the public to contribute, and stakeholder group identification/outreach.		H	1/18
M2. Public Scoping	a) Council members to help raise awareness about the opportunity for public commenting during the scoping period (at hearings or in writing) b) Council members to attend a scoping hearing, and/or submit written comments (in addition to input provided at SAC meetings)			
M3. Post-Scoping	a) Council members to receive a report from staff summarizing public scoping comments received b) Council members to provide structured input on categorization and prioritization of scoping issues to be addressed within the management plan.			
M4. Council member outreach	a) Advisory council to identify their personal connections/networks/groups that they would be willing to use to help raise awareness about the sanctuary and the opportunity to participate in the management plan process.	<i>Suggested by Morgan Coffee "This could be done as a survey or fill in form to save time at a meeting." – K. Louttit</i>		
<u>N. ADDITIONAL TOPICS / ACTIVITIES SUGGESTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS</u>				
N1. Naturalist Corps	a) Show the advisory council how the Channel Islands Naturalist Corps sets up an information booth and interacts with the public at community events, and explain the approach used on whale watch trips and on the islands.			
N2. Refugio Oil Spill	a) Review/learn about Draft restoration plan for the Refugio Beach Oil Spill.			

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N3. Emerging Issues	a) Learn about new issues relevant to the sanctuary	<i>"I look to you for your expertise + sources to add emerging issues" – K. Louttit</i>		
N4. Collegiate Student Engagement	a) Hearing and learning from college-level students that are advancing knowledge relevant to sanctuary issues or management (e.g., select UCSB Bren School graduate student teams)	<i>"I would love briefs such as [SEA-tizen Science] that are unique + from a different perspective" – K. Louttit</i>		
N5. Local Businesses	a) Receive reports or briefings from local companies connected to the sanctuary (as was done in 2017-2018).	<i>"I think these are worth the time" – K. Louttit</i>		
N6. Mérito Foundation	a) In addition to the Sanctuary and the Park, the Mérito Foundation with its programs is one of the few entities that reach students, teachers, and parents in a meaningful way to support the goals of the Sanctuary and Park. It would be great if the SAC could find a way to assist in the marketing of the foundation.	<i>"I see this under 'marketing'" – C. Rodrigues</i>		