

NOAA CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, January 20, 2023

9:00am-12:45pm PT

Hybrid Session: Santa Barbara Zoo and Google Meet

Final Key Outcomes

*This hybrid public Advisory Council meeting was not video or audio recorded.
Please contact Mike (michael.murray@noaa.gov) to request a copy of any presentation slides.*

Administrative Business and Announcements

- Chair Kristen Hislop called the meeting to order, described the purpose and composition of the Advisory Council and its bi-monthly meetings, and provided opening remarks.
- CINMS Deputy Superintendent for Programs Mike Murray oriented attendees to the hybrid meeting technology and practices for effective participation.
- Murray confirmed in-person and online attendance, counting the presence of 21 Council members representing 15 out of 21 voting seats (Appendix A). In addition to Council members, several members of the public and sanctuary staff were in attendance both in-person and online.
- Hislop welcomed three new council members including Mike Nelson (Commercial Fishing seat member), Michael Yorke (Education seat member), and Chris Ragland, (Public At-Large seat alternate).
- Murray thanked three outgoing council members for their service on the council, including Kim Selkoe (Commercial Fishing seat member), Mary Byrd (Public At-Large seat alternate), and Cliff Rodrigues (Education seat member).

November 18, 2022, Draft Key Outcomes

- The Advisory Council approved the draft key outcomes from the November 18, 2022, Advisory Council meeting. Michael Cohen (Tourism seat member) offered a motion to adopt the notes, which Sam Macks Franz (Conservation seat member) seconded. Chair Hislop led a voice vote. There were no oppositions or abstentions to the vote.
- A copy of the November 18 draft key outcomes is available upon request to Mike (michael.murray@noaa.gov), and will be posted on the [Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting Notes web page](#) upon finalization.

Council Member Announcements

- Council members shared a variety of announcements from their respective groups, organizations, and agencies.

- Michael Cohen (Tourism seat member) commented on the impact of the January 2023 storms and flooding, and emergency actions taken to mitigate impacts.
- Andrea Mills (Education seat alternate) noted they are working on developing new programs to bring youth to the Channel Islands.
- Sam Macks Franz (Conservation seat member) shared that the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History's Sea Center is celebrating Underwater Parks Day on January 21, 2023. She also shared that the SAC Conservation Working Group hosts meetings every other month open to the SAC and public. The next meeting is scheduled for March, and members should let Sam or Kristen Hislop know if they would like to get involved.
- Merit McCrea (Recreational fishing seat alternate) expressed interest in a recent recreational fishing regulation change being considered by the Pacific Fishery Management Council. He also highlighted dredging activities in the Santa Barbara Harbor as a result of the January storms and the impacts to fishing.
- Mike Nelson (Commercial Fishing seat member) provided an update that the Santa Barbara City Council asked the Harbor Commission to establish commercial fishing subcommittees to address the lack of fishing infrastructure. Nelson also commented on the February dredging activities in the Santa Barbara Harbor and asked about engaging with the City of Santa Barbara on sea level rise impacts because of damage from the January 2023 storm.
- CDR Ariel Berrios (U.S. Coast Guard Member) presented a variety of updates on marine environmental projection statistics and the commercial fishing vessel *Speranza Marie* grounding event. Berrios stated that they are transitioning from emergency response to debris removal at the grounding site.
- Captain David Bacon (Recreational Fishing seat member) expressed disappointment about the debris from local storm catch basins being dumped into Goleta Bay, and noted the importance of the area for subsistence anglers. He also shared that by invitation from NOAA he just participated on a recreational fishing panel in San Diego.
- Phyllis Grifman (Research seat member) provided updates on research-related items and the Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) subcommittee. Grifman stated two California Sea Grant requests for proposals were released that focus on DDT, offering two years of research funding. Phyllis also mentioned that the council's Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee met once and reached an agreement on backing the idea of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries finding a way to provide stipends to council members that might need it. She also mentioned that the Subcommittee expects to consider potential changes to the council meeting schedules.
- Carlos Mireles, (CDFW) noted that CDFW released the 2022 Decadal Management Review of the California Marine Protected Area (MPA) Network

and Management Program. He explained the report is the first comprehensive review of the network, and it summarizes the network's achievements and challenges across pillars. He noted that state groundfish regulations are expected to be consistent with federal regulations.

- Lindsay Bonito, (California Natural Resources Agency seat member) thanked CDFW and its partners for developing the MPA Decadal Management Review report, and expressed excitement about future conversations on next steps for California's MPA network. She highlighted future meetings that will cover next steps, including the CA Fish and Game Commission (FGC) meetings in February and April, and the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) meeting in February. She also noted OPC plans to launch its new tribal engagement strategy.
 - Tim Athens, (Commercial Fishing seat member), thanked Mike Nelson for stepping into the commercial fishing seat. He reflected on the impact that the redlining of the Maine Lobster under the Seafood Watch program had on the commercial fishing industry.
 - Kristen Hislop, (Conservation seat member) elaborated on the Conservation Working Group and explained that at the last meeting they discussed the MPA Decadal Management Review, and continued to discuss the topic of cruise ships and working to improve the environmental standards of cruise ships.
- Written Council member announcements submitted prior to the meeting can be found in Appendix B.

Sanctuary Superintendent's Report

- CINMS Superintendent Chris Mobley welcomed attendees back for the first in-person Advisory Council meeting of 2023, and shared a Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 budget update.
- Mobley introduced the new CINMS team member, Keighley Lane, Program Support Specialist. In her role at the Sanctuary, Lane will be supporting several program areas at CINMS, including the Sanctuary Advisory Council and implementation of the new management plan.
- Mobley announced that the CINMS Vessel Operation Coordinator LT Nick DeProspero will be rotating out for an at-sea officer assignment. His replacement, ENS Danny Lucas, will arrive in June.
- Mobley provided an update on the new sanctuary research vessel, *Minke*, which is now 71% complete as of January 2023. The completion of the vessel is scheduled for March 31, 2023. The *Minke* is expected to be used for many types of missions, including dive operations, tagging operations, and the deployment and recovery of small moorings.
- Mobley shared that the proposed Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary, in New York, has reached an important milestone. The Proposed Rule was released for public review and

comment through March 20. Additional details about the proposed sanctuary can be found [here](#).

- Mobley provided an update on the Proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary (CHNMS). The ONMS West Coast Regional office is leading the designation process and staff are preparing a draft management plan (DMP), draft environmental impact statement (DEIS), and a Proposed Rule. He noted the documents are likely to be released for public review and comment this spring.
- Mobley provided an update on the CINMS Management Plan process which included completion of review by ONMS leadership. He indicated that the final documents could be released by the end of February/early March.
- Mobley shared that last November, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted a U.S. proposal to increase protections for endangered whales off our coast. This proposal extends the SB Channel Traffic Separation Scheme (shipping lanes) 13 nm further west. The proposal also expands the existing Area To Be Avoided (ATBA) by an additional 2,000 sq. NM. The changes will take effect this summer. He explained that the SAC was instrumental in prioritizing the ship strike issue and forming a Marine Shipping Working Group in 2015. He thanked and congratulated the SAC and acknowledged and thanked partners that helped support this proposal including the U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region and Southwest Fisheries Science Center, and the U.S. Navy.

Balloon Free Seas Campaign Announcement

- Meg DeCoit, Balloon Free Seas Campaign Coordinator and Island Packets deckhand and naturalist, explained that this campaign aims to address the issue of balloons as marine debris. She shared a social media toolkit to foster awareness during certain times of the year where balloon use increases, such as for the upcoming Valentines day. SAC members can access the social media toolkit online and are encouraged to spread the word.

Education and Outreach Program Update

- Julie Bursek, CINMS Education Team Lead, and Shauna Fry, CINMS Outreach Coordinator presented an update on the education and outreach team. Their presentation included an overview of the education team members, the education and outreach opportunities in the Sanctuary Management Plan, and the various partnerships and outreach events over the next year.
- Bursek and Fry also provided SAC members with a variety of opportunities for them to participate in education and outreach events. They noted they would follow-up after the meeting to provide additional information. Their presentation slides are available upon request.

Public Comment

- Several members of the public provided comments and remarks for guest speakers and sanctuary staff.
 - David Lopez, President of the Santa Barbara chapter of the California Coastal Conservation Association, expressed interest in hearing the groundfish report from CDFW.
 - Stacey Lydon, California Marine Sanctuary Foundation (CMSF), shared she will be working out of the CINMS office and hopes to collaborate with folks on education, outreach, fundraising, and communications strategy.
 - John Reed expressed he was happy to hear about the shipping lane changes, and is looking for advice from the SAC on activities.
 - Michael Cohen, highlighted the importance of the Channel Islands Naturalist Corps.

Nereid Biomaterials, Developing a New Ocean-Safe Bioplastic for Future Use

- Dr. Alyson Santoro, University of California Santa Barbara, and Dr. Ryan Freedman, NOAA CINMS, presented their work in developing marine-biodegradable plastics for the oceanographic instrumentation sector.
- The presentation included an overview of the biopolymer base (PHB) of their product, the research program structure included Phase 1 (planning) and Phase 2 (Implementation), their interdisciplinary research team, the various speeds of degradation of the product, and additional research areas.
- Council member questions followed the presentation and included questions about the degradation rates in different environments, the end products of degradation, and how this product compares, strength-wise, to other plastic products.

Advisory Council Annual Planning

- Sam Cook, 2022 California Sea Grant State Fellow, presented an overview of the work of the council in 2022 and reflected on the council’s outlook for 2023. She highlighted the variety of topics covered by the SAC, and the variety of council member contributions to improving sanctuary management. She reflected on her experience as a fellow, noting her contributions to the education and outreach team, involvement in developing the final management plan, and working to engage a greater diversity of community members.
- CINMS staff and council members thanked Sam for her contributions over the past year.

Close Out and Next Steps

- Chair Hislop provided closing remarks and reminded attendees of upcoming 2023 Advisory Council meetings:
 - Friday, March 17 (Museum of Ventura County with online option)
 - Friday, May 19 (Santa Barbara Zoo with online option)
 - Friday, July 21 (Ventura County with online option)

- Friday, September 15 (Santa Barbara County with online option)
- Friday, November 17 (Ventura County with online option)

Appendix A. Advisory Council hybrid meeting attendance, January 20, 2023

<i>Name</i>	<i>Advisory Council Seat</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
Michael Cohen	Tourism member	Yes
Morgan Coffey	Tourism alternate	No
Ben Pitterle	Non-Consumptive Recreation member	Yes
Anthony (Tony) Knight, Ph.D.	Non-Consumptive Recreation alternate	Yes
Giles Pettifor	Business member	No
Paul Amaral	Business alternate	No
Kristen Hislop	Conservation member	Yes
Samantha Macks Franz	Conservation alternate	Yes
Mike Nelson	Commercial Fishing member	Yes
Timothy Athens	Commercial Fishing alternate	Yes
Capt. David Bacon	Recreational Fishing member	Yes
Merit McCrea	Recreational Fishing alternate	Yes
Michael Yorke	Education member	Yes
Andrea Mills	Education alternate	Yes
Phyllis Grifman	Research member	Yes
Robert Miller, Ph.D.	Research alternate	No
Douglas Williams, Ph.D.	Public-At-Large member	No
Chris Ragland	Public At-Large alternate	Yes
Stuart Kasdin, Ph.D.	Public-At-Large member	No
Amanda Allen	Public At-Large alternate	Yes
Eva Pagaling	Chumash Community member	Yes
Tano Cabugos	Chumash Community alternate	No
Daniel Studt	National Marine Fisheries Service member	No
<vacant>	National Marine Fisheries Service alternate	n/a
Ken Convery	National Park Service member	No
<vacant>	National Park Service alternate	n/a
CDR Ariel Berrios	U.S. Coast Guard member	Yes
LT Lelea Lingo	U.S. Coast Guard alternate	No
Donna Schroeder	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management member	No
Jeremy Potter	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management alternate	No
Adam Melerski	Dept. of Defense member	Yes
Stephen Duboyce	Dept. of Defense alternate	Yes
Carlos Mireles	California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife member	Yes
John Ugoretz	California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife alternate	No
Jenn Eckerle	California Natural Resources Agency member	No
Lindsay Bonito	California Natural Resources Agency alternate	Yes

Cassidy Teufel	California Coastal Commission member	No
Jacqueline Phelps	California Coastal Commission alternate	No
Errin Briggs	County of Santa Barbara member	No
David Villalobos	County of Santa Barbara alternate	No
Jed Chernabaeff	County of Ventura member	Yes
<vacant>	County of Ventura alternate	n/a
Lisa Wooninck	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary member (non-voting)	No
Karen Grimmer	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary alternate (non-voting)	No
Maria Brown	Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary member (non-voting)	No
Brian Johnson	Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary alternate (non-voting)	No
Chris Mobley	Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary member (non-voting)	Yes
Mike Murray (staff)	Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary alternate (non-voting)	Yes
	Total number of individual SAC members (<u>voting seats</u> only)	21
	Number of voting seats represented (out of 21)	15

Appendix B. Written Council member announcements, submitted as of November 17, 2022

Name: Daniel Studt

Seat: NOAA Fisheries

[Finalized: Groundfish Management Measures and Harvest Specifications for 2023-2024](#)

New groundfish management measures and harvest specifications for the 2023-2024 biennium, as well as Amendment 30 to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan, are now in effect, as of January 1, 2023. The rule revises management measures to keep the total annual catch of each groundfish stock or stock complex within the annual catch limit, and includes a number of changes related to recreational fisheries by each state. [View the final rule and supporting materials, including a compliance guide here.](#)

[Recreational Fishing: Policy and Partnerships Podcast](#)

Explore how policy and partnership are working to ensure U.S. recreational fishing remains vibrant and sustainable for the future through this podcast episode with Russ Dunn, National Policy Advisor for Recreational Fisheries, and Alex Atkinson, NOAA Fisheries' National Fish Habitat Partnership Coordinator. [Check out the podcast episode here.](#)

Name: Carlos Mireles

Seat: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Announcement subject: California's MPA Decadal Management Review- Update

[California's MPA Decadal Management Review](#) (Review) was just released January 9, 2023. It is the first comprehensive statewide review of California's MPA Network and Management Program since the Network was completed in 2012.

The Review summarizes accomplishments and challenges in each MPA Management Program pillar: Research and Monitoring, Outreach and Education, Policy and Permitting, and Enforcement and Compliance. It also provides an integrative analysis of MPA Network performance and evaluates progress towards the six goals of the Marine Life Protection Act. The Review synthesizes knowledge obtained over the last ten years of MPA management and advances a collection of recommendations to initiate discussions and inform decisions about the next decade of management.

Next Steps

February 9: The Review will be presented at the California Fish and Game Commission meeting.

March 15: A public forum will be held in Monterey to share and discuss the Review with partners and stakeholders. If you plan to attend, please register here ([Review Forum](#)) by February 15, 2023. Space is limited.

March 16 and April 19/20: The Review will be discussed at the California Fish and Game Commission's Marine Resources Committee meeting in March and Commission meeting in April.

Name: Lindsay Bonito

Seat: California Natural Resources Agency

Announcement: Ocean Protection Council updates

Upcoming OPC Meeting – January 24th

The OPC will hold its next hybrid quarterly meeting on January 24, 2023. The in-person meeting will take place in Sacramento, with the option to participate virtually as well. The meeting agenda is available on [OPC's meeting webpage](#), but will include approval for OPC's Tribal Engagement Strategy and Tribal Small Grants Program, projects advancing coastal resilience and MPAs and climate resilience, and a microplastics package.

Public Release of the MPA Decadal Management Review!

Please see CDFW's written update for more information, but OPC is pleased to share the Decadal Management Review is [available to the public](#). Over the next few months, there will be multiple opportunities to participate in discussions around the Review and next steps for the MPA Network. Please visit CDFW's MPA Decadal Management Review [webpage](#) for more about these opportunities, including a public [Review Forum](#) to be held in Monterey on March 15th.

California State Budget Updates

The 2021 and 2022 Budget Acts committed \$1.6 billion for nature-based solutions and \$1.3 billion for coastal resilience over multiple years. After two remarkable years of budget surplus, the state is now facing reduced revenue projections. To address this budget gap, Governor Newsom's [proposed FY 2023-24 budget](#) includes reductions but maintains \$1.3 billion (86 percent) of nature-based solutions funding and \$734 million (57 percent) of coastal resilience funding. If there is sufficient General Fund in January 2024, these reductions are expected to be restored. OPC maintains approximately \$139 million (64 percent) of the originally proposed funding.

30x30

In December 2022, OPC hosted a [virtual roundtable](#) to hear perspectives on 30x30 from members of California's diverse coastal communities and to serve as a venue for open discussion

on recommendations for conserving 30% of California’s coastal waters by 2030. OPC has also released a [survey](#) to solicit feedback on recommendations, top threats to biodiversity within coastal waters, science needs, and enhancing transparent communication. Based on feedback received at the roundtable and through the survey, early next year, OPC will share additional opportunities for tribes, environmental justice organizations, conservation groups, fishermen, and others to participate in further discussions on 30x30 implementation.

Tribal Engagement Strategy and Tribal Small Grants Program

OPC has developed its first-ever [Tribal Engagement Strategy](#), which will serve as a framework for enhanced communication and partnership between OPC and California Native American tribes on ocean and coastal issues. The Tribal Engagement Strategy, which will be considered for adoption by the Council at its Jan 24th meeting, was crafted in close collaboration with tribes, including early consultations and listening sessions held in Fall 2021, as well as further consultation on a draft Strategy held in Summer 2022. It provides specific actions that OPC will undertake to enhance tribal engagement in all aspects of its work, as well as approaches that OPC will pursue to improve communication with tribes. A priority action in the Tribal Engagement Strategy that will also be considered by the Council is the investment of \$1,000,000 to establish a dedicated Tribal Small Grants program. This program will provide dedicated funding to tribal governments and tribally-led nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in support of work that advances tribes’ priorities for conservation, management, and stewardship, as well as the goals in OPC’s Strategic Plan.

California Participation at IMPAC5

California representatives from state and federal agencies, tribal representatives, and NGOs will attend the upcoming [5th International Marine Protected Area Congress](#) (IMPAC5) in Vancouver, Canada. Two events will be hosted by the California partners, including a panel to share lessons learned from the past decade of California’s MPAs and a knowledge sharing session to share knowledge, experiences and perspectives about integrating human dimensions into ocean management and conservation.
