



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

The Red Barn Classroom
One Bear Valley Rd.
Point Reyes, CA
9:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Thursday, April 8, 2010

Note: The following meeting 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 or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, REVIEW AGENDA

Advisory Council Chair, Richard Charter, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Roll Call

Bruce Bowser	Conservation Alternate
Bob Breen	Education
Richard Charter	Chair/Conservation
Pat Conroy	At-large/San Francisco and San Mateo Alternate
Brenda Donald	At-large/San Francisco and San Mateo
Barbara Emley	Maritime Activities/Commercial
Peter Grenell	Maritime Activities/Commercial Alternate
Dan Howard	Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary (afternoon)
Richard Kuehn	At-large/Sonoma and Marin Alternate
Mick Menigoz	Maritime Activities/Recreational
Dominique Richard	At-large/Sonoma and Marin
Pat Rutten	National Marine Fisheries Service (non-voting)
LTJG Brittany Steward	United States Coast Guard Alternate (non-voting)
Bob Wilson	Conservation

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Staff

Maria Brown	Superintendent
Brian Johnson	Deputy Superintendent
Kelley Johnson	Advisory Council and Ocean Climate Initiative Coordinator
Angela Minnameyer	Administrative Assistant
Karen Reyna	Acting Resource Protection Coordinator
Jan Roletto	Research Coordinator
Irina Kogan	Resource Protection Specialist
Mary Jane Schramm	Public Outreach Specialist
Sage Tezak	Conservation Science Specialist

Absent:

Secretary Linda Adams	California Environmental Protection Agency
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put in place is to no longer have standing working groups. It was asked what language in the MBNMS Charter in regards to marine protected areas was upsetting with fishermen?

Action >> Kelley will follow up with Nicole Capps.

Officer Elections August 2010

We moved the July meeting to August to fill a gap, but instead created a new gap. We should look at this when we set next years dates. Prior to the meeting we will ask for nominations for each office (members can nominate others or put your own name forth), we will vote on submitted names at the August meeting, new officers will go into effect at the December meeting.

Recruitment Update

Normally the Executive Committee reviews applications and then makes recommendations to the Superintendent, but 2 out of 3 of the officers had to reapply. The Superintendent makes the final decision on Advisory Council seats. A review committee is needed. Bob Wilson, Richard Kuehn, Pat Conroy, and Brittany Steward volunteered for the committee. Timeline is to swear in any new members at the August meeting, and also determine if we need to re-advertise for any seats.

Motion to establish an Application Review Committee

Motion: Barbara Emley, Maritime Activities/Commercial

Second: Brenda Donald, At-large/San Francisco and San Mateo

Vote: Motion carried unanimously

May 2010 Advisory Council Summit

Richard and Kelley are attending the meeting, which will be held May 11-13 in Port Angeles, WA, with the council coordinators only also meeting the 14-15. The final agenda is complete. Kelley will email it to members. Members can contact Richard if there is anything they would like him to pass on to the other council chairs and/or Dan Basta. Richard will report back on the meeting in August.

Retreat Date and Field Trip Location

We would like to discuss our new Rocky Intertidal Stewardship Program in partnership with Cal Academy and take advisory council members out to Duxbury Reef where docents interpret the tidepools, unless there are other ideas from the members. To do this we would need to change the date to 10/7 due to needing a low tide. Members agreed and staff will look into the Stinson Beach Community Center or the Bolinas Firehouse for the meeting portion of the retreat.

Meeting Protocols (Discussion led by Maria Brown.)

- Does the Council want the Chair to offer motions? The Council decided they want to keep this as is and allow everyone, including the Chair, to offer motions.
- Bob Wilson stated Robert's Rules of Order does allow the Chair to offer a motion. He can find this language.

- When holding joint meetings, announce the GFNMS Council protocols so it is clear who can offer motions.
- It was decided that immediately after each Council meeting agenda item, Maria will have the opportunity to recap the information to make sure all communication is clear.
- The Council also decided they would like GFNMS staff to sit at the table when answering questions based on their expertise (but this would not be for the entire meeting).

Superintendent's Report

The GFNMS Annual Accomplishments Report was distributed via email to members. Maria Brown highlighted the following:

- Oceans for Life: High school students from the Middle East came to the Bay Area to experience the ocean with students from the U.S. The goal of the program is to break down boundaries and borders. GFNMS staff coordinated their activities while here.
- San Francisco Ocean Film Festival: This was held in February and was a big success. This was a new partnership with Aquarium of the Bay. There were 3,700 participants and 5 films on sanctuaries.
- Beach Watch online: There is now an online query for shoreline survey data at: <http://www.farallones.org/BeachData/BeachWatchData.php>
- Applied California Current Ecosystem Studies (ACCESS): This is a new collaboration for regional ocean monitoring amongst PRBO Conservation Science, CBNMS and GFNMS: <http://www.accessoceans.org/>. Jaime Jahncke will give a presentation on the ACCESS partnership to the council at our August or October meeting.
- Seabird Protection Network: Staff was asked to expand the project statewide, and we will now be statewide coordinators of additional chapters. The Bureau of Land Management will be the lead in other regions. There are also interested parties inland. The Network will be funded for 20 more years through Luckenbach settlement funds, and has been funded entirely through Trustee funds thus far.
- Management Plan: In 2009 the regulations went into effect.
- Crissy Field Campus: We broke ground on facility renovations and are hoping to have the opening for the residence building this fall.

Timely Updates

- On Friday, a vessel sunk offshore while going out to collect crab pots. The boat flipped and one person didn't survive, the other was rescued. 70 gallons of diesel fuel spilled, but it does evaporate quickly. There is not much we can do. There was no fishing gear on board. Also on Friday, a container ship lost five containers in the sanctuary, but they were all empty. Due to rough seas, they could not bring them in because it was a navigational hazard. They sank the empty containers and two came inshore, one in Bolinas Bay that hasn't been found and the other at Bolinas Beach, just east of Duxbury Reef. Today Parker Salvage will be removing the container. There is an open investigation. Maria stated we can reclaim costs incurred that are specific to the investigation.
- Dr. Lubchenco is coming out for a listening session in Menlo Park on aquaculture.
- We have received NOAA's priorities for the administration: marine spatial planning; climate change; ocean acidification; sustainable communities.

Maria Brown also reported on the following:

FY10 Budget

We received flat funding, the same as the last five years, which means we are getting a cut due to inflation. This was a 35% cut five years ago and we have received a 2-4% cut each year after. We don't anticipate it getting better, possibly worse. Staff is over 100% capacity and we have to start looking at cutting programs or we will lose staff to burn out. It will be difficult for us to take on anything new. We will have to cut some existing projects, and need to make sure we are focusing on priorities. We have not determined what the cuts will be yet. We are working closely with FMSA to fund projects appropriate for private funding, and we are determining what projects need to use government funds.

Tomales Bay Vessel Management Plan

We are in the internal phase, and are not soliciting public input at this time. The SAC recommendations were presented to the Tomales Bay Technical Advisory Committee (11 government agencies). There will be subcommittees for certain tasks. The main partners are the State Lands Commission and GFNMS. We will have a notice of intent in the Federal Registrar this summer, and are anticipating a draft plan in Fall 2010. It will go to public comment for a minimum of 45 days. The SAC recommendations may be entirely accepted, or accepted with changes. We must share any changes. The two options for sharing changes are: 1) in the plan, or 2) we can produce a separate document. In addition, we are making good progress with Marin County and the Department of Boating and Waterways for oil and sewage removal services.

Coastside Visitor Center

We didn't get the lease at Pillar Point Harbor, it went to Mavericks Surf Shop instead because we could not move in immediately. We are looking for new location and welcome ideas from SAC members.

Discussion

Peter Grenell stated it was suggested to NOAA to seriously consider an alternate site in the harbor based on the working group recommendations. The Harbor District administrative office is moving out of renting quarters. We want to build a new building and are also discussing additional agencies housed in this building. We are trying to diversify the harbor and the Visitor Center would be perfect here. The other space was less than half of the optimal space. If the sanctuary could start planning for an optimal facility, it could be folded into the harbor district development. The sanctuary would just need to pay rent and we could build to suit. It would be 2-3 years minimum before a building would be complete. Maria Brown stated, in the mean time we are moving forward on the kiosk exhibit concept in other areas of community and 13 new sanctuary signs went in at Fitzgerald, along with a new stairway.

Mavericks Surf Contest

The sanctuary attended the post event agency meeting. We are considering asking for proof of a public safety plan as part of the permit application. We issue this permit to Maverick's Surf Ventures for on-the-water safety and have been advised that jet skis are safer than zodiacs in those swell conditions. We do have a tidepool closure, but we can't close the beach. We can

make the recommendation to do this though. The highest priority is employee/volunteer safety. We don't have the capacity now for rapid notification of change of conditions. We also can't control what the blackout dates are but we can advise. We are working with NOAA Law Enforcement on ways to monitor/enforce motorized personal watercraft.

International White Shark Symposium

The sanctuary presented a paper on the White Shark Stewardship Project. We are in front of the curve on white shark protection internationally. We made a good connection with Mexico, and if we can get funds, we have ideas on how we can work together. There will be a white paper on research tagging ethics in about two years. We need protocols on tagging of white sharks. In November 2009 a paper was published on ethics of tagging marine mammals and sharks in Tasmania, this can be an example document. There will also be a white paper on ethics for tourism. There were also discussions on how to address public reactions following white shark attacks.

Action>> Bob Wilson will scan the symposium abstracts and send to Kelley to distribute to SAC members.

Permit Update

Applications received:

- Caltrans Highway 1 road repair and culvert removal near Bolinas
- Bodega Marine Laboratory Tomales Bay Water Quality Buoy
- Great White Adventures educational ecotourism trips for the general public in the Gulf of the Farallones to view white sharks
- Assessing crab population connectivity along the northern California coast using trace element signatures of soft issues: a new approach
- Collection of marine substrates
- Introduced Species Study (withdrawn)

Discussion

It was asked if SAC members could be kept informed on the status of the Great White Adventures permit? Maria replied, we can provide notification when/if we issue the permit, and if there are exceptions to what was discussed as part of the management plan.

Response to December 2009 Advisory Council Resolutions

Maria Brown, Sanctuary Superintendent, read the response letter that was distributed to SAC members. The letter is posted at http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/sac_meetings.html.

Irina Kogan was informed ONMS Headquarters and NOAA General Council had to be consulted on the response to the December resolutions, because it would potentially be setting precedence within the system.

Discussion

It was asked if the Superintendent must consider user conflict in the permit criteria? Maria replied this is not in the criteria in the Code of Federal Regulations. This is not a requirement of the sanctuary program, but it can be proposed during the next management plan review.

Project Update: Fine Scale, Long-term Tracking of Adult White Sharks

Dr. Michael Domeier, President, Marine Conservation Science Institute and Maureen Lemire, National Geographic Channel-Expedition Great White gave a presentation to the Council. A question and answer period for council members followed after public comment.

Public Comment

Donna Spilman, Citizens Advocating Roblar Rural Quality (CARRQ), is opposed to development of a hard rock quarry on Roblar Road. The property has always been ranch and dairy land. CARRQ has fought quarries at this site for more than 20 years. The current proposal is the most difficult challenge. The current property owner owns North Bay Construction, one of the largest construction companies in Sonoma County. The site is immediately adjacent to a closed landfill, and the level of toxins has not been adequately tested. The quarry would blast dynamite next to a closed landfill. Next to that is open space property. The quarry will dig out 570,000 cubic yards of gravel per year, operating from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm six days a week. After three rounds of public hearings, the Sonoma County Planning Commission voted to recommend that the Board of Supervisors certify the final Environmental Impact Report (EIR), even though it contains 169 conditions that must be mitigated, and approve the use permit for the rock quarry. No Board of Supervisors meeting date has been set, it will most likely be before the November election. The original EIR was widely criticized. There was a new consultant hired to study concerns. The next steps are to increase public awareness and opposing comments submitted to the Board of Supervisors. She is looking for support from the Council to identify people that can help to research, and promote opposition to the quarry.

James Mosquito, Great White Adventures, runs educational trips to the Farallones. Domeier's presentation was great. We insist research does continue and need it for protection of the sharks because you can't protect without knowing where they go, and people only care about what they know. Every shark and their quality of life matters though. He suggests the sanctuary postpone the permit until the issues can be addressed and changes can be made. A shark should not be taken out of water, and it is cruel to tow them seven miles and drill a hole in them, permanently attaching the device for the rest of it's life. The hook should be made out of material that can dissolve quickly. The lifting techniques need to be changed. Monterey Aquarium uses special sling devices. Hard surfaces can crush internal parts. The weather at the Farallones is always an issue. If the shark is hooked and the weather changes, it is not good for human safety. The platform is not successful in rough weather. Sharks should not be attracted several hours before sunset. If you catch one at 5:00, you might run into dark and you shouldn't use lights. Only daytime tagging should be allowed. Tags should be self-removing. The bolt placement and tightness needs to be addressed. Dorsal fins have been seen lopped over with these tags, and one had a black mark. The fin can die from lack of blood. All of the hardware needs to be designed differently. Once a tag stops working, it must be dissolvable. Since tags are permanent, limit one tagging per shark or only use one shark for all tags. Don't tag every shark. He suggests the sanctuary contacts the tag manufacturer to get more details. Research permits should be issued

for research only, not reality series. The sanctuary should reevaluate the way film permits are issued.

Maureen Lemire, National Geographic Channel-Expedition Great White, stated the piece was not a reality series. National Geographic prides itself on high standards and practices. There is a transcript of the entire show in rough form, and one person is dedicated to review it and make sure everything is credible. We have not shown anything on the Farallones yet, that will be for the second series. This is not a traditional documentary, but instead an expedition show. Viewers become invested in the characters as well. The outreach is far greater than a normal documentary. Maureen was also an executive producer for Planet Earth and worked on Blue Planet.

Question and Answer Period with Dr. Domeier

- The Council expressed concerns over the filming (i.e., too much like “big game hunting”), hooking techniques, hard platform, stress to the animals, and types of tags used, as well as inquired about the use of alternative techniques such as ultrasound devices.
- Dr. Domeier explained that he has the most advanced technology and approaches. There are different types of techniques used by others, but they have been unsuccessful in gathering longer-term data. After three years of data all of his sharks are alive and well.
 - There currently isn’t an ultrasound device that can penetrate the shark’s tissue to determine if they are pregnant. He would love to be able to use an instrument like this.
 - He developed an expensive cradle for the shark in the past, but it was too difficult to get the shark into this device. You would practically have to kill it to get it to sit still to get in.
 - Any foam applied to the platform would get ripped out.
 - The company making the hooks is using an alloy that breaks down fast. He has modified the fishing practices to fish right at surface so the shark can’t swallow the hook.
 - Dorsal fin tagging gives the best information and has not been shown to be harmful to the sharks (one shark already had a flopped fin when he tagged it, only reason why it was flopped after).
- Bob Wilson asked if DNA analysis was done on the blood? He also stated that common ethics standards and sample size must be determined on the outset. Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the damage to an individual animal must be weighed against the scientific result.
- Dr. Domeier replied he is sending the DNA samples to Stanford for analysis. He stated some of the marine mammal work is far more invasive (i.e., cutting open an elephant seal and then sewing it back up). He is proposing to tag 10 sharks. His research counterparts have a permit to tag 100, and their tags have implications also.
- Maureen Lemire stated Dr. Domeier is one of the most collaborative scientists she knows. The others shark researchers at the Farallones were invited to join him and they declined. The largest white shark symposium ever was organized by him. He is spearheading the

movement for innovative tags. Many scientists are feeling proprietary, but we would have liked to have them involved. They know these animals also, so it was disappointing.

- Richard Charter stated people view GFNMS as a special area of protection. The film footage from Guadalupe prompted us to take actions. We went through an extensive management plan review and then this permit gave an exception to the regulations. We want nothing but the highest standards regarding how GFNMS is portrayed and how animals within it are treated. What is longest duration in time that a shark has had to fight the tackle, and what is the longest distance it has been towed back to a ship? Has an agency or researcher ever done an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), etc, that addressed the humane aspect that was open to public comment? Is anyone researching other capture techniques? Can you envision any other technology that can get you the same type of information?
- Dr. Domeier replied the fight time ranges from 11 minutes to 1 hour (this only happened once). One animal was towed about 3-4 miles, but usually it doesn't get far from the vessel. We have experimented with other techniques for capturing sharks. We have used a clamp on a tiger shark tail, but he is nervous to do this with a white shark, because they have a high demand for oxygen and shouldn't be pulled backwards at all. Fish have been caught for thousands of years using hooks. There hasn't been any review such as an EIS of this project. Radio frequencies don't transmit through water so the tag must be affixed to the top of the dorsal fin, and you have to capture the animal to do this. Another benefit of bringing the shark on the platform is obtaining information on the reproductive biology. His technique offers the most scientific benefit from as few animals as possible.

Joint Session with Gulf of Farallones and Cordell Bank Sanctuary Advisory Councils

CBNMS Advisory Council Chair, Lance Morgan, called the meeting to order at 1:15pm. Introductions were made of GFNMS and CBNMS council members, staff, and public.

Enforcement Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Update

Dayna Matthews, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement reported the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for CBNMS and GFNMS met on April 7, 2010. Topics discussed included:

- Joint Enforcement Agreement – The office of Law Enforcement provided funds to the state of California (CA) for law enforcement. Sanctuary funding is focused on implementing the north-central marine protected area (MPA) regulations.
- Mavericks Surf Contest Debrief – A two-page draft document evaluating permitting, planning logistics, etc. from the 2010 contest has been developed. The document will be reviewed by Maria Brown, GFNMS Superintendent, and finalized into a detailed plan to be presented to the TAC before Mavericks Surf Contest next year.
- Enforcement Statistics – A document is being developed to identify activities that enforcement personnel are engaged in, number of hours worked, etc. Statistics are derived from 2009 information. The goal of the document is to improve the functionality of the Office of Law Enforcement and Sanctuaries.
- NOAA Twin Otter – A presentation was given by Jason Mansour, Operations Officer for the West Coast Twin Otter. This is one of the 5 NOAA Twin Otter planes and is stationed in Monterey Bay from mid October – May, the rest of the year the plane is in Alaska. The

West Coast Twin Otter supports research and enforcement missions. The long-term goal is to permanently station the plane in Monterey Bay.

- Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Special Closures – Buoys will soon be deployed around some of the Special Closures. The buoys will address MPA regulations and flushing of seabirds.
- Draft Vessel Patrol Guide – The guide is a spin off from the aerial patrol guide developed by Matt Pickett, Aircraft Operations Coordinator. All four of the CA sanctuaries have a guide and the GFNMS and CBNMS guide is a joint effort. The final product will be spiral bound, printed on water and tear proof paper. The guide is not a public document.

Discussion

Is there proactive education about MPA regulations? The California Department of Fish and Game will address public education. The Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association (FMSA) has received funding for boater and fishing community outreach. There is also an effort to put regulation signs at boat ramps.

GFNMS/CBNMS Climate Change Site Scenario

Lance Morgan, CBNMS Council Chair and Working Group member, provided a presentation that is available at http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/sac_meetings.html.

Discussion

Waste water treatment plants and airports would be a good audience. Who is the audience for the document? The primary audience is the GFNMS and CBNMS Superintendents, secondary audience is partner natural resource managers, and tertiary audience is the general public. The document is not written in ‘scientific language’ and the document release will be an email/media blast for a wide audience. Another local effort is the Bay Area Ecosystem Climate Change Consortium. There were many positive comments from council members on the layout/presentation of the document and the depth of scientific information.

Motion to adopt the GFNMS/CBNMS Climate Change Site Scenario and forward the document to the sanctuary superintendents.

Motion: Bob Wilson, Conservation, GFNMS

Second: Ed Smith, Research, CBNMS

Vote: Motion carried unanimously

Site Scenario Release and 2nd Biennial Ocean Climate Summit

Kelley Higgason, GFNMS Ocean Climate Initiative Coordinator, reported on the following:

- Site Scenario public media release will be June 3rd at the California Academy of Sciences (CAS) in the planetarium. Authors will be present, and there will be a brief press conference with media.
- 2nd Biennial Ocean Climate Summit will be held at CAS also. We are only able to have about half the number of attendees than were present last time. The goal of the summit is to address climate change impacts within the San Francisco Bay Area's coast and ocean environment through effective communication of these impacts to public audiences, as

well as productive dialogue and collaborations amongst local scientists, educators, and marine resource managers.

West Coast National Marine Sanctuaries Ocean Acidification Task Force Update

Dan Howard, CBNMS Superintendent, Kelley Higgason, GFNMS Ocean Climate Initiative Coordinator, GFNMS gave the following update:

- Ocean Acidification (OA) Task Force: West Coast National Marine Sanctuaries (WCNMS) task force has been developed to take the lead on OA (in response to the Council resolutions). Task Force members include 7 representatives from the west coast sanctuaries: Dave Lott (Task Force Coordinator), Dan Howard (superintendent), Laura Francis (education/outreach), Ed Bowlby (research), Kelley Higgason (resource protection), Karen Grimmer (operations), and Linda Krop (Advisory Councils).
- Task Force Goals: Develop action plans for the WCNMS to move forward and address OA. So far the group has developed an outline of strategies for research and monitoring, education, resource protection, and operations, which will be reviewed by the appropriate coordinators at each sanctuary.
 - There is already a NOAA effort to address OA and within the national context there is a west coast plan. The goal of the WCNMS OA Task Force is to nest the sanctuaries priorities into the larger NOAA plan. Sanctuaries need to be fairly aggressive to be included as part of NOAA larger plan. The NOAA plan is out in draft form.
 - Draft documents from the WCNMS OA Task Force will be provided to the advisory councils for their review and comments before finalizing.
- Timeline: within the next two weeks the outline of strategies will be available for the Research Coordinators meeting; the task force will work for a 6-8 month period.

Public Comment

Jackie Dragon (Pacific Environment) is in support of the proposed working group addressing the effects of vessel traffic on sanctuary resources. The working group is critical because of busy shipping lanes, ship strikes and ocean noise impacts to marine mammals. At the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) council meeting, Dan Basta (ONMS director), focused on the importance of advisory councils and the work they do (such as the 14 actions regarding OA, the GF/CB site scenario working group, CINMS vessel impacts working group, etc.). Dan also touched on ocean acoustics and recognized that this is the next step for research (although there is limited funding). Jackie supports the power of advisory councils and hopes that the council will move forward on establishing the joint vessel traffic working group. Pacific Environment has grants pending that could be used to support the working group. Pacific Environment is also leading trips out of the Farallones to educate the public about the need for science based information, to get them in the sanctuary, and appreciate the acoustic environment in the ocean.

Spirits Wiseman (Fairfax resident) is deeply concerned about the impacts of ocean noise and supports a joint effort to focus on ocean noise in the sanctuaries.

Andrea Treece (Center for Biological Diversity) supports the next agenda item for the vessel traffic working group. Issues such as ocean noise, ship strikes, etc. need to be addressed to

understand the impacts. The United States Coast Guard (USCG) is conducting a Port Access Route Study (PARS) for San Francisco shipping lanes and scientific information from the group could be provided to the USCG. There are a lot of people willing to work on these issues, including graduate students.

Effects of Vessel Traffic on Sanctuary Resources Joint Working Group Discussion

A draft proposal to form a joint working group was distributed to Council members. Lance Morgan, CBNMS Council, and Bob Wilson, GFNMS Council, led a discussion on the need for this working group.

- It was acknowledged there are a number of working groups at GFNMS now, and resources are limited. There is interest from outside organizations to fund a coordinator position or use a graduate student for this working group.
- In the wildlife disturbance chapter of the GFNMS Management Plan, Strategy 3, Activities 3.1 and 3.3 talk about addressing this issue. The CBNMS Management Plan also discusses addressing acoustics.
- Pacific Environment sponsored a group to discuss ship strikes to whales. There are other groups that want to research this and are interested in having this working group. They understand that GFNMS can't begin additional programs, but they do need administrative support. They can get outside help for writing documents, etc. The hope would be that sanctuary staff would at least attend meetings and provide feedback. Michael Carver can represent CBNMS and they would need one representative from GFNMS also.
- A well balanced working group is needed, that will determine how credible the work is.
- Maria Brown and Dan Howard agreed they can't do more work with less money. The Councils can write a proposal to Dan Basta requesting support for this working group. It should be clearly stated what the working group will be focused on.
- The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary working group had three staff members and six grad students involved. It took Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary five years to finish their plan. This is a large project.

Motion for a joint working group to be established to study the effects of vessel traffic on sanctuary resources.

Motion: Richard Charter, Conservation, GFNMS

Second: Bob Wilson, Conservation, GFNMS

Vote: Motion carried unanimously

Motion to write letter to Maria Brown and Dan Howard, with the request to forward to Dan Basta, requesting administrative support for this working group.

Motion: Barbara Emley, Maritime Activities/Commercial, GFNMS

Second: Bruce Bowser, Conservation Alternate, GFNMS

Vote: Motion carried unanimously

Salmon as a Sanctuary Resource

Barbara Emley, GFNMS Council, presented a draft resolution to the Councils.

- It was noted that Bill Douros feels it may be time for sanctuaries to weigh in on the salmon decline since it is a sanctuary resource.
- The three key points from the salmon summit were: not enough fresh water; the need for ecosystem management; and the need for additional science. Sanctuaries could push for funding for additional research. It was noted the National Marine Fisheries Service is already doing this.
- It was discussed that the resolution needed to be relevant to water management agencies and the resolution needed to be more specific about what it was targeting.

Motion to send revised resolution to Maria Brown and Dan Howard to forward to appropriate state and federal agencies.

Motion: Barbara Emley, Maritime Activities/Commercial, GFNMS

Second: Richard Charter, Conservation, GFNMS

Vote: 14 in favor, 1 opposed

Member Reports

- Brenda Donald, GFNMS Council, attended the Mavericks safety meeting. The local surfing community does not seem to fully understand the new sanctuary regulations for motorized personal watercraft.
- Richard Charter, GFNMS Council, reported there will be no offshore oil and gas leasing in California until after 2017.
- Brittany Steward thanked the council members and sanctuary staff and stated she learned a lot from all four California sanctuaries.
- Liza Crosse, CBNMS Council, reported the Cordell Foundation has been established as a 501(c)(3) to help support CBNMS. Their website is Cordellfoundation.org.
- Richard Kuehn, GFNMS Council, requested to discuss at a future meeting the proposal on the resumption of gray whale hunting that is before the International Whaling Commission. He is concerned about setting 10 year quotas based on what we don't know.
- Bruce Bowser, GFNMS Council, reported the California Coastal Commission is organizing statewide demonstrations on May 23rd on this whaling topic.

Discussion

Tom Roth stated Representative Lynn Woolsey has drafted a delegation letter asking members of Congress to sign on to a letter to the National Marine Fisheries Service to provide accurate information to International Whaling Commission. If Council members live in other districts, you can ask your members of Congress to sign on to the letter.

2010 Upcoming GFNMS Meetings

- August 12, 2010 – Bodega Bay
- October 7, 2010 – Council Retreat, location TBD
- December 9, 2010 – San Francisco