

**GULF OF THE FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
ADVISORY COUNCIL RETREAT
DRAFT KEY MEETING OUTCOMES**

Bolinas Firehouse
10:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 7, 2010

This document will be posted online at http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/sac_meetings.html. Audio recordings of this and other Council meetings are available upon request to leslie.abramson@noaa.gov.

Attendance:

See attached roster at end of document.

Administrative Business

The agenda was approved with no changes.

Superintendent's Report (Maria Brown)

FY11 Budget

The sanctuary will likely be operating under a Continuing Resolution for the entire next year, meaning no new funding will be available to the Sanctuary. However, in reality, “flat-funding” is equivalent to a 10% cut to the sanctuary budget. Maintaining key programs will remain a huge challenge through FY11. This is why the creation of more working groups cannot be supported by sanctuary staff.

Review of FY10 Accomplishments

- Climate Change and the Sanctuaries
 - Climate Change Impacts report completed by the working group that then gave recommendations to GFNMS
 - GFNMS hosted the 2nd Biannual Climate Change Summit, during which time experts and key agencies came up with recommendations that will go in the action plan
 - Green Operations- the sanctuary was able to implement 80% of SAC Green Operations recommendations. GFNMS has had a 0.83 metric ton reduction in carbon per capita (from 2008-2009). Other sanctuaries are adopting the program.
 - California and the World Ocean Conference- Kelley Higgason moderated a panel on climate change and discussed the impacts report
 - Ocean Acidification Task Force for the west coast region- Kelley Higgason has been developing strategies on resource protection
 - Kelley Higgason was a lead author of the ONMS Ocean Acidification Action Plan
 - GFNMS is a founding member Bay Area Ecosystem Climate Change Consortium (BAECC), which currently consists of 50 institutions. The BAECC works at the land-bay-sea interface and the first project is on sea level rise.
 - Kelley Higgason is transitioning to full time Ocean Climate Initiative Coordinator and a new SAC Coordinator will be hired in the coming months.
- Resource Protection
 - Sanctuary has Updated Emergency Response Plan but will remain a dynamic document. This plan serves as a model for ONMS and will inform our Emergency Response Working Group as we move forward

- We have been asked to be the statewide coordinators for the Seabird Protection Network (SPN). The SPN is supported with all outside funding. To date, we have drafted an SPN Action Plan for California and guidelines for establishing network chapters. Two other groups want to join, one in southern CA and one in northern CA
- GFNMS put out Boat Patrol Guide for enforcement only. Soon there will be a version for the public on our website.
- Tomales Bay Vessel Management Plan draft has been completed. GFNMS is now waiting for state to sign off so it can be released to the public.
- Operations
 - GFNMS has renovated old coast guard residence, which is now the Ocean Climate Center (OCC). In two years, we will have exhibits and a public opening
 - Volunteer Appreciation Event will be in OCC
 - OCC is a green building. GFNMS designed and built solar-powered aquarium unit for our visitors center, re-used marine batteries from tide gauge to operate aquarium-backup system, installed a solar powered water cooler unit for offices and implemented a sustainable collection of marine aquaria. All animals are rescue animals from boat hulls.
- Education
 - GFNMS was selected to be on the National Education Executive Committee
 - GFNMS, with the assistance of the working group, finished our Half Moon Bay Visitor's Center Concept Plan
 - GFNMS held the ribbon cutting for 17 new interpretive signs, stairway and platform on Oct 27 at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve. Additionally, the sanctuary installed 7 additional interpretive signs in sanctuary
 - Evaluation of our K-12 programs through a survey showed very positive results. 90% teachers ranked GFNMS education program as excellent and for visitors center ed programs, 95% of teachers ranked our program as excellent
 - Education Programs reached 11,300 students and developed three new programs, squid, white sharks and salmon, which are funded through donations (fee for service)
- Conservation Science
 - The Condition Report is complete has gone through extensive review. This report will guide our priorities through the next 5 years
 - Beachwatch data was featured in Coast to Explore, as well as other coastal geology and ecology of California publications
 - A multi- year effort to explore deep sea corals project began this year
- Management Plan- Maria outlined how many of the recommendations we are actually implementing:
 - Water Quality Action Plan: We are implemented two out of nine recommendations
 - Wildlife Disturbance: We are implementing six out of seven recommendations
 - Ecosystem Protection Fishing Activities Action Plan: We are implementing six out of ten recommendations
 - Impacts from Vessel Spills: we are implementing four out of twelve recommendations
 - Education: We are implementing thirteen out of fourteen recommendations
 - Conservation Science: We are implementing five out six recommendations
 - Resource Protection: We are implementing six out of thirteen recommendations
 - Administration: We are implementing five out of six recommendations
 - Cross Cutting Programs: We are implementing 23 out of 26 recommendations

New GFNMS Film

“Sanctuary in the Sea” by Bob Talbot will be premiering at the California Academy of Sciences on Oct 21. Local diver, Ron Elliot, is the main character.

Ocean Climate Center

October 26 is the “kelp-cutting” event for the opening of the Ocean Climate Center.

White Shark Permitting

GFNMS hosted a training program that trained 50 naturalists about white sharks. Also, the sanctuary independent review on white shark permitting has been released and the sanctuary has revamped the website to have more info, as well as access to abstracts from white shark symposium and a white shark fact sheet.

GFNMS issued two tourism permits in sanctuary for cage diving at Farallones Island (no chum allowed/scent, no expansion to include blue sharks, no expanded locations).

The Tagging of Pacific Predators (TOPP) research permit is currently active for another year. Dr. Domier requested his permit be extended for a total of 5 years and increased from 11 tagged sharks to 13. The sanctuary requested an Environmental Assessment, which is out for public comment and closes Oct 12th. The sanctuary will look at all comments and make a decision. When the final EA comes out, it will contain the final decision. Public comments on EA will be binned and then responded and then put on the Internet. Final EA will be a public document.

Advisory Council Business (Maria Brown & Kelley Higgason)

Accomplishments, FY10

GFNMS AC is the most active SAC in ONMS, with 37 recommendations and 4 major documents (Half Moon Bay Visitors Center Concept Plan, Green Operations Plan, Tomales Bay Vessel Management Plan, Climate Change Impacts Report)

Work Plan, FY11

The FY 11 Work Plan was distributed and discussed. It can be viewed at http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/GFNMSAC_WorkPlan_FY11.pdf

Schedule, 2011

February 10, 2011, Joint Meeting GFNMS and CBNMS Advisory Councils, Half Moon Bay

May 12, 2011 Point Reyes, CA

August 11, 2011 Pacifica, CA

October 6, 2011 SAC Retreat, TBA

November 10, 2011 San Francisco

Officer Nominations

Officer nominations and voting will occur at next SAC meeting

Assessing the Role of Scientific Information in Sanctuary Management:

Presentation by Lauren Garske can be viewed at
http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/10_10/garske_100710.pdf

Using Science to Inform Marine Conservation and Management in the California Current:

Presentation by Jaime Jahncke can be viewed at
http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/10_10/jahncke_100710.pdf

Duxbury Reef Rocky Intertidal Restoration:

Presentation by Rebecca Johnson

Presentation by Rebecca Johnson from the California Academy of Sciences can be viewed at
http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/10_10/johnson_100710.pdf

2010 Upcoming GFNMS Meetings

- December 9, 2010 – San Francisco

Meeting Attendance Roster

NAME	SEAT	P/A
Dominique Richard	Public-At-Large Marin/Sonoma	P
Richard Kuehn	Public-At-Large Marin/Sonoma- Alt	P
Kellyx Nelson	Public At-Large SF/San Mateo	A
Tim Duff	Public At-Large SF/San Mateo Alternate	A
Brian Baird	CA Resources Agency	A
Amy Vierra	CA Resources Agency Alternate	A
Sec. Linda Adams	CA EPA	A
Cindy Tuck	CA EPA Alternate	A
Richard Charter [Council Chair]	Conservation	P
Bruce Bowser	Conservation Alternate	P
Bob Wilson [Council Secretary]	Conservation	P
Jackie Dragon	Conservation Alternate	P
Bob Breen	Education	A
<i>Vacant</i>	Education Alternate	
Barbara Emley [Council Vice-Chair]	Maritime Activities/ Commercial	P
Peter Grenell	Maritime Activities/Commercial Alternate	A
Mick Menigoz	Maritime Activities/Recreational	A
George Clyde	Maritime Activities/Recreational Alternate	A
John Largier	Research	P
Jaime Jahncke	Research Alternate	P
Cicely Muldoon	National Park Service	A
Frank Dean	National Park Service Alternate	A
<i>Vacant</i>	USCG	
LT Steve Arnwine	USCG Alternate	P
Pat Rutten	NMFS [non-voting]	A
Natalie-Constantino Manning	NMFS Alternate [non-voting]	A
Maria Brown	GFNMS [non-voting]	P
Dan Howard	CBNMS [non-voting]	A

Kaitlin Graiff	CBNMS Alternate [non-voting]	A
Paul Michel	MBNMS [non-voting]	A
Karen Grimmer	MBNMS Alternate [non-voting]	A
