



CORDELL BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2012

9:30am – 1:30 pm

PRBO Conservation Science, Petaluma, CA

Note: The following meeting notes are an account of discussions at the Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Welcome

Advisory Council Vice Chair, George Clyde, called the meeting to order at 9:40am

Roll Call

Members present:

George Clyde (Council Vice-Chair and Community-at-Large Marin)

Mike Cummings (Community-at-Large Marin Alt.)

Jaime Jahncke (Research)

Pete Adams (Research Alt.)

Bill Wolpert (Community-at-Large Sonoma)

Sarah Hameed (Community-at-Large Sonoma Alt.)

Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook (Education)

LT Elisa Garrity (USCG Living Marine Resources Officer)

Leslie Abramson (Gulf of the Farallones NMS)

CBNMS staff:

Dan Howard (Superintendent)

Kaitlin Graiff (Advisory Council Coordinator)

Jennifer Stock (Education and Outreach Specialist)

Michael Carver (Resource Protection Coordinator)

Review Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved

Review of November Minutes

The November 17, 2011 meeting minutes were reviewed

George motions to adopt June minutes as final, Bill approves, Jaime seconds, all in favor

November minutes accepted as final

Welcome new Members

Dan welcomed and swore in the new members to the Advisory Council. Welcome: Leslie Alder-Ivanbrook – Education, Pete Adams – Research alternate, and Mike Cummings – Community-at-large Marin alternate

Manager's Report (Dan Howard)

- i. Council items: We will arrange a new Council member orientation in February and the Cordell Bank Council members e-mails will be added to the Council list server administered by the Gulf

of the Farallones NMS. This will improve our communications, as well as making them more efficient.

- ii. Budget: NOAA has a budget, but NOS is going to levy a tax on offices to make up on budget shortfall, which will most likely reduce the operating budgets for each sanctuary.
- iii. Vessel Speed Petition: Office of National Marine Sanctuaries Headquarters is meeting with NOAA headquarters to discuss the official response.
- iv. Office Expansion: New construction in the red barn cannot be approved by the National Park Service since the building is located within 50 feet of the San Andres Fault line, which is a violation of the Alquist-Priolo Act of 1972. The other options are to look for another office space within the park, outside of the park, or make seismic upgrades to the current office space.
- v. Collaborative Fisheries Research (CFR) Pre-proposal: Dale Roberts worked with Rick Starr, researchers from the National Marine Fisheries Service and California Department of Fish and Game (CDF&G) to write a pre-proposal for funding through CFR West, the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) and California Sea Grant. The proposal was to replicate a project conducted by CDF&G that used charter fishing boats to sample rockfish over Cordell Bank and other locations adjacent to California ports. The goal is to look at effects to the fish populations due to the closure over the Bank implemented in 2002. The study would also fish in areas around the Gulf of the Farallones and Half Moon Bay where charter fishing still takes place. The project would be two years.

Education Report (Jenny Stock)

- i. Teacher Workshop series: there will be a one day workshop in May to addresses climate change and the effects it will have on the oceans and estuaries. Other workshops in July will address ocean acidification (OA), a field trip to Hog Island Oyster Company to show the influence of OA, and the last workshop will focus on the physical adaptations of animals in response to OA.
- ii. Traveling photo exhibit: looking for input on where this exhibit can be displayed. She would like to start in West Marin. Bill offered to help make the layout design once she knows the space and photo sizes.
- iii. The Cordell Bank brochure is being re-designed; Jenny showed draft of new brochure.
- iv. Oakland museum: Jenny will be conducting docent trainings over the next few months
- v. Ocean Currents: is now being hosted on Science 360 Radio.

Resource Protection (Michael Carver)

- i. Stellwagen Bank NMS processed 2009 AIS data for the San Francisco vessel traffic area. This information will be of value for the joint working group focused on vessel speed. The average speed of cargo vessels in CBNMS is 17.5 knots. The next meeting is scheduled for January 19th and the meeting will focus on acoustics.
- ii. United States Coast Guard C130 flights: are used to patrol the West coast sanctuaries to collect information on vessel use. There have been two flights since November.

Public Comment

Tom Lambert, President of the Cordell Marine Sanctuary Foundation

The underwriting spot for the Foundation on KWMR has resulted in donations. The Foundation also applied for a grant focused on environmental education that would be used to fund the traveling photo exhibit. The Foundation's website has been updated. The Foundation is also hosting a lecture series, the first lecture will be by Dan and Jenny in Sebastopol. Jenny will be dissecting an Albatross bolus as part of a discussion on plastics in the environment. The question was raised if the Foundation's logo could be featured on the new Cordell Bank brochure.

Presentation: Cordell Bank Exhibit at Oakland Museum (Doug Long, Chief Curator of Natural Sciences, Oakland Museum)

The new California Natural Sciences gallery will highlight California as a global biological hotspot and will tell the story of biological diversity. The gallery will feature seven places: Oakland, Mt. Shasta, Sutter Buttes, Yosemite, Tehachapi Mountains, San Jacinto/Palm Desert, and Cordell Bank

The Cordell Bank exhibit will highlight the beauty and importance of the Bank for animals of the world. There will be a section displaying Black-footed Albatross tracking data, impacts from plastics/debris, section about upwelling, the deep slope area of the sanctuary, stories from the Cordell Expeditions divers and a replica of the Bank's upper reef top. There will also be a lounge area, where people can sit and learn more about the other National Marine Sanctuaries.

The goal for a soft opening of the Cordell Bank exhibit is October 2012.

Member Reports

George Clyde: Recent KWMR report about a study by the Tomales Bay Watershed Council that focuses on all species that reside in the Tomales Bay watershed. The study lists species of local interest (native species that are important to watershed), are they endangered and how they should be managed. Report available on the Tomales Bay Watershed website.

Leslie Abramson: The GFNMS low over flight regulations have been finalized and will be published in federal register. The regulations prohibit aircraft from flying under 1,000 ft in designated areas as this could disturb wildlife. Areas are Devils Slide, Point Reyes, Farallon Islands, and Bolinas Lagoon. Tomales Bay was not included. The Tomales Bay Vessel Management plan is expected to be completed in the summer of 2012. The White shark programmatic Environmental Assessment comes out on February 20th. The GFNMS Advisory Council has decided to incorporate a youth member seat on the council, this will be non-voting. GFNMS Advisory Council passed a resolution supporting a ban on plastic bags. This resolution was developed by the Monterey Bay Advisory Council and has also been passed by the Channel Islands Advisory Council. The MBNMS Advisory Council has written a letter to NOAA headquarters to support future BWET funding.

Bill Wolpert: Petaluma had a work shop discussing restoration options for the Petaluma Trestle. The trestle is a historic structure located on the Turning Basin of the Petaluma River in central Petaluma.

Sarah Hameed: Sonoma County Surf Rider is working with non-profits to help keep local state parks open that have been slated for closure. Dungeness crab season is open and it looks like it will be a good year.

Elisa Garrity: The USCG C130 flights conducted over the past few months in CBNMS and GFNMS have been productive.

Jaime Jahncke: The oil spills joint working group will have a meeting on February 2nd; the focus will be on the toxicity of oil and dispersants. There will be three expert speakers addressing toxicology effects to larvae, salmon, rockfish, mollusks, top predators, and bioaccumulation.

Council Business

The joint CBNMS and GFNMS Advisory Council meeting on June 7th is contingent on the joint working groups having completed their recommendations to be approved by the Advisory Councils. If the working groups are not ready by this time, the Cordell Bank Advisory Council will not meet.

Retreat location idea: Oakland museum.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:30pm