



Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary

**SANCTUARY ADVISORY
COUNCIL**

MEMBERS:

Carol Keiper
Research

Lance Morgan
Conservation

Chuck Wise
Maritime Activity

Tom Lambert
Community-at-Large Sonoma

Joe Smith
Community-at-Large Marin

Doreen Moser
Education

Brian Mulvey
National Marine Fisheries Service

James Clemens
U.S. Coast Guard

Daniel Cohen
Research Alternate

Todd Steiner
Conservation Alternate

Josh Churchman
Maritime Activity Alternate

Michael Mery
Community-at-Large Marin Alternate

Duffy Ross
Education Alternate

**Meeting Agenda
Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council
Point Reyes National Seashore Association
April 13th, 2006**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topics and Objectives</u>
9:30-9:45	Welcome, Roll Call, Review Agenda – Tom Lambert
9:45-10:00	Review Last Meeting’s Minutes (12/1/05 and 1/26/06) – Tom Lambert
10:00-10:15	Public Comment Period –Tom Lambert
10:15-10:45	Manager’s Report – Dan Howard
10:45-11:30	Council Member Reports –Tom Lambert
11:30-11:45	Break
11:45-12:15	Constituent Reports and Further Discussion about Outreach – Tom Lambert
12:15-12:45	Discuss Topics for the June First Retreat – Tom Lambert
12:45-1:30	Lunch
1:30 -2:15	Use and Technology of Dispersants in Spill Response – YvonneAddassi, OSPR
2:15-2:30	Questions for Ms. Addassi –Tom Lambert
2:30-3:15	NOAA and Fisheries Management Overview of Wiring Diagram – Tom Lambert
3:15-3:30	Public Comment Period – Tom Lambert
3:30-3:45	Management Plan Review Update – Kelley Higgason

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Materials Distributed –

- June First Retreat Topics
- Constituent Introductory Letter
- April 13th SAC Meeting Agenda
- January 26, 2006 Meeting Minutes
- CA Oceans Protection Council informational handout

Meeting Commenced at 9:40 a.m.

Roll -

Council Members Present:

Carol Keiper
Dan Cohen
Josh Churchman
Joe Smith
Tom Lambert
Lance Morgan
Duffy Ross
Brian Johnson – for Maria Brown
Chuck Wise
Erica Burton – for Bill Douros

Voting alternates:

Duffy Ross

Council Members Absent:

Brian Mulvey
Chris Mobley
William Douros
Doreen Moser
Michael Mery
James Clemens
Todd Steiner

Staff Present:

Rowena Forest
Dan Howard
Jennifer Stock

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Review Agenda – Tom Lambert

Review Last Meeting's Minutes – Tom Lambert
12/1/05, 1/26/06

December first minutes:

Motion –

Joe Smith proposed a motion to adopt the December first minutes as final.

Carol Keiper seconded

All in favor

1/26/06 minutes:

Tom introduced the new format for the January 26th minutes

Changes to the minutes were proposed. Rowena will make these changes and bring the 1/26/06 minutes to the next meeting.

Motion –

Joe Smith proposed a motion to adopt amended minutes as final.

Tom Lambert seconded

All in favor

Public Comment – Tom Lambert

None

Manager's Report – Dan Howard

Heads up that in July and August NOAA will be staging a major spill response exercise. The scenario is a collision between a tanker and a tug and barge outside the golden gate bridge. In addition to several NOAA offices, the coast guard, the states office of spill prevention and response and other coastal management agencies will be participating. The spill takes place in the Gulf of the Farallones but Cordell staff will be participating in the drill. It was a high visibility exercise in Florida last year and promises to be the same here.

Dan and the Sanctuary Advisory Council (Council) discussed how the Safe Seas drill exercises could affect local fishing activities at the time. Dan Howard will request that the fishing community be included on the planning committee.

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Dan has spent the last week working on our FY07 budget with one scenario that will be worse than FY06. We are looking at an additional 10% cut, which will severely restrict activities in FY07.

Something you might be hearing about more is the California and the World's Ocean Conference in Long Beach this September. With this event, California is looking to bring together representatives from all states, including 35 coastal states, academia, government, industry, and the public to positively influence the course of ocean and coastal protection. So there will be a broad spectrum of presentations – the sanctuary has submitted a couple of ideas for panel discussions.

Jennifer Stock – Education Program Update:

Bay Watershed Education Training (BWET) grants have been awarded to promote watershed education in the Bay Area. The program has been very successful in other areas and funding for the Bay Area program was provided by an earmark from Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi.

A curriculum for teachers through the National Geographic Society includes ocean information, and two of the activities in the curriculum focus on Cordell Bank.

Jenny announced that she will be hosting a new monthly show on the local radio station KWMR. The show will feature “everything ocean” and provide an opportunity to raise the profile of the Sanctuary in the local community.

CBNMS will be partnering with the Point Reyes National Seashore Association (PRNSA) again to sponsor one of the Point Reyes field seminars. The class will be held September 23, 2006 for the classroom portion and October first for a boat trip to Cordell Bank. Participants will learn how to identify seabirds and marine mammals in the classroom and then put their skill to work on the field trip to Cordell Bank.

Cordell Bank will be expanding beach cleanup activities from once to four times a year. The program will solicit volunteers and focus on local beaches.

Jenny discussed the marine debris float, which will be in the Western Weekend Parade at Point Reyes Station in June, 2006. There will be a workday to create the float May 12th 1:00-6:00pm. The debris on the float has all been collected from local beaches.

Dan discussed the research vessel Fulmar, a Sanctuary Program boat built to support research in the central coast Sanctuaries. It is 60ft and has a Catamaran Hull. Dan announced Dan Basta's visit to the White House with Sylvia Earle and the President to view the Coustaeu show about the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

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Member Reports –

Tom Lambert - California Ocean Protection Council Workshop (OPC)

Tom introduced the OPC put together by the governor of California to address State ocean health issues. Tom attended the OPC workshop. The future budget and need of the Council was introduced, as well as the Council's responsibilities. The Council announced that it's geographic area of concern goes offshore 200 miles into the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), and includes shared jurisdiction with other agencies. The website for the CA OPC is <http://resources.ca.gov/copc/>

Carol Keiper – Education and Marine Debris Update

Doreen Moser and Carol Keiper will be leading a mini oceans natural history course to the Farallones, which will include an overnight on the boat the White Holly, and marine research activities.

Oikonos and partners have delivered abstracts to the Center for Conservation Biology. These will be presented at the conference June 24-28.

Carol will be presenting May 12th and 13th at the Southern CA Academy of Sciences at Pepperdine University in Malibu – “Plastics in the Marine Environment”

Josh Churchman – Fishing Communities in Danger

Josh raised concerns that fishing as a living is disappearing, and would like the Council to discuss fishing activities that can be encouraged and supported, instead of focusing solely on fishing bans. Josh is concerned about present and future corporate control of CA fishing allocations/permits. Josh would like the Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC) to promote sustainable fisheries.

Dan proposed a fishing working group be reinstated to address this. The discussion may start as “how to bring this concern before the PFMC”. Chuck Wise suggested Josh bring up these concerns at the Crab Boat Owners Meeting tomorrow in San Francisco. They are using the New Zealand example as a model to look at/avoid – Large corporate fishing has taken over all the individual/smaller boats, and many economic and environmental problems have arisen from this. Tom Lambert brought up the point that the Joint Management Plan Review (JMPR) states that the Fishing Working Group is permanent and not disbanded. Concerns were raised that the SAC should not spearhead this effort but the fishing community should – the SAC is an advisory group to the Sanctuary. Dan addressed how fishing is handled in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. Dan and the Council discussed how a working group could proceed with a clear focused intent that could contribute without crossing lines.

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Tom Lambert for Brian Mulvey – Fisheries Update

Green Sturgeon was just listed as a threatened species under the endangered species act. National Marine Fisheries Service is starting the Cooperative Habitat Program – to assist in needs to protect habitats through design, to maximize use to protect species and provide more habitat.

Lance Morgan – Legislative Update

MCBI and National Geographic have been putting together a map called Sea to Shining Sea, and will be a virtual teacher workshop.

Congressman Pombo has introduced legislation to re-authorize Magnuson- Stevens (MSA) which could change how fisheries are managed within Sanctuaries. If passed as is, it might cause revisiting the recent rule to limit bottom contact gear on Cordell Bank, and undermine habitat protection in Sanctuaries. There will be an analysis written by staff at MCBI. The House and Senate have two different versions of the MSA

Chuck Wise – Salmon Update

Commercial and sport fishing is faced with a ban on fishing on the Oregon and CA coast. There is a strong united effort of sport, commercial, and tribal fishing interests opposing this closure. There are meetings in Seattle and Santa Rosa. The Coast will be shut down to commercial fishing from Oregon to Pt. Arena. There will be a one-month opening below Pigeon Point to Point Sur. Below Point Sur there are no restrictions because this is out of the range of the Klamath salmon. Point Reyes to Point San Pedro will be open because most of the fish taken in this area are Sacramento fish. Sport will have shorter closures but basically full fishing April to October because they don't catch Klamath fish. Chuck noted that the low flows in the Klamath have to be solved before the fisheries can get healthy again. Carol asked what is being done to promote the health of the waters in the Klamath to remedy the situation? Chuck discussed the Klamath dams will be re-commissioned over the next several years. Basically nothing is being solved at the moment. The Public Utilities Commission has stopped the reduced water rates to the local users, so this may help with discouraging the pumping of excess water by the farmers. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) hands are tied and cannot support larger flows (which would benefit the salmon runs) because of an executive order sanctioning the water diversion for agriculture.

Brian Johnson – Gulf of the Farallones (GFNMS) Update

There will be a series of events for the 25th Anniversary of GFNMS throughout the year with a gala event in May.

SiMON expansion going well

Working with the Sheriff's Dept to help raise the two boats that sank in Tomales Bay during the last storms.

Brian showed the new GFNMS 25 ways to connect and protect the oceans brochure

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Brian gave a FY 07 budget update for GFNMS. With the cuts it would include closing the Half Moon Bay office, sell the Phocoena research vessel, no more projects with SiMON, and other program cuts including a cut of the SAC. Brian noted every program is looking at staff reductions, and part time closure of the Crissy Field Visitor Center. Core staff will be kept. Marine mammals and bird observations will be cut, IT will be cut.

Constituent Updates – Tom Lambert

The Council discussed the draft general constituent outreach letter drafted by Council Coordinator, and made editorial suggestions.

The Council discussed refining and adding to a constituent email contact list.

Jenny Stock and Rowena Forest discussed the development of a SAC Constituent list serve to be added to the Cordell Bank SAC website. This would serve to update constituents of SAC meetings and events.

Discuss Topics for the June First Retreat – Tom Lambert

In the interest of time for today's schedule, Rowena will send out the topics list to the SAC over email and the SAC will respond with retreat suggestions

Lunch 12:50-1:30 (*The Gulf of the Farallones SAC joined the meeting for the remainder of the afternoon)

Use and Technology of Dispersants in Spill Response – Yvonne Addassi, OSPR

Yvonne gave an introduction of today's presentation and a personal introduction – outlining her background in biology with the California Fish and Game Department.

Slides:

Introduction – what happens when there's a spill:

Response and options at the time of an oil spill

Realities of spill response and why consider dispersants

The spill will go somewhere no matter what – injury cannot be avoided completely, but how can injury be minimized.

= Short-term vs. long term effects on the environment

Response Objectives

No Response Option – attributes and limitations

Mechanical Recovery – attributes and limitations

Chemical Dispersion – attributes and limitations

A short-term impact will occur under the dispersed plume. There is a short window of opportunity when dispersants can be used.

Use of dispersants is dependent on the resource needed protection.

In-Situ Burning

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A GF Council member raised the question of why the genetically modified bacteria used to “eat” oil in spills hasn’t been used. Yvonne – it is a slow process and there are naturally occurring bacteria that do this in the environment already.

Dispersant Mechanism and Chemistry:

What are Chemical Dispersants

Dispersant-Oil Structure – Yvonne explained the size and behavior of the dispersed oil droplets

Summary: mechanism and Chemistry

Dispersant Formulations – description of modern dispersant formulations, not as toxic as past formulations

Factors Affecting Dispersant – oil and environmental factors

Dispersant effectiveness is based on conditions and water salinity

Weathering of Spilled oil Overview – evaporation, dispersion, spreading, advection, emulsification, dissolution, photo-oxidation, sedimentation, biodegradation

Oil can spread to one molecule thick – one barrel can cover a lot of area.

The Effects of Dispersants on Weathering of Oil – Reduced Effect, Enhanced Effect
Summary

Questions and Discussion for Ms. Addassi –

Dan Howard raised the question of damage assessment in relation to resource protection, and the variables. Yvonne cited modeling studies and variables effecting response.

Richard Charter/GF Council member raised the point of oil “behavior”, and the effects of some oil qualities/thickness on animals and the environment.

GF staff asked regarding predominant wind patterns and how spills will affect wildlife in these conditions

Barbara Emley, GF SAC – A group of fisherman held a field exercise with authorities on how to respond to a spill and what works – A spill was mimicked and containment utilized/attempted. The exercise seemed not to work.

Mark Dowie, GF SAC, asked for clarification on how a spill is acted upon in the time of need, and with consideration of all the stakeholders involved in the response. Yvonne explained the process based on her spill response experience. And explained response in pre-approval zones vs. not pre-approved. National Marine Sanctuaries are not pre-approved to use dispersants.

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Spill response in the time of crisis, and emotional factors was discussed - and difficulties that may arise at the time.

NOAA and Fisheries Management – Wiring Diagram Overview
– Tom Lambert

The “Wiring Diagram” is to be used to formalize NOAA’s decision-making process for developing fishing regulations in National Marine Sanctuaries.
Tom showed a sample of the pages in the draft diagram
Tom explained the process – including primary regulatory triggers, issue prioritization and development of potential management actions, National Marine Sanctuaries Program (NMSP) proposed management actions, and the regulations that come from this.

Dan Howard noted that this was the first time that the Sanctuaries and the Council went through this process on the west coast. Lessons learned from this experience helped to develop the wiring diagram.

Tom covered the Magnuson-Stevens Act regulatory process and where the Sanctuaries can get involved.
Fishing regulations in National Marine Sanctuaries - Why formalize NOAA’s decision making process, CBNMS has already gone to PFMC on bans on krill harvesting and bottom contacting gear, Comments are due April 30.

Summary – the bottom line is this is designed to approach regulations under one standard instead of by a case by case basis.

Public Comment Period – Tom Lambert
No comments

Management Plan Review Update – Kelley Higgason

NOAA Internal Clearance began April 10, all documents (the DEIS and the 3 MPs) were printed the week of April 3rd.

Update- 4/18 clearance officially began

Clearance is expected to take at least 6 weeks, putting approval at approximately mid to late May if all goes well. Brady Phillips, Liz Moore, and Ed Lindelof met with Jennifer Nist (GCOS) to clarify the General Council review and try to ensure that the documents are reviewed within this timeframe.

Assuming NOAA clears the DEIS, Management Plans, and proposed rules by mid to late May, final changes will then need to be incorporated before sending to the printer. The

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release of these documents and the start of the public comment period are anticipated to be around the end of June- beginning of July

Comment period will last 60 days during which time we will:

Hold one public hearing at the following seven locations:

- * Bodega Bay
- * Pt. Reyes Station
- * San Francisco
- * Half Moon Bay
- * Santa Cruz
- * Monterey
- * Cambria

Hold a series of informational workshops to explain the Management Plans and the regulatory changes (these are not public comment meetings, but provide an opportunity to inform the public what they are commenting on by describing what the plans and regulations do and do not do). We won't hold these at every hearing location. We will hold 2-3 throughout the region.

Assuming no delays in the clearance process, the public hearings will begin late summer (approx. mid to late August) and will last 4 weeks. The hearings will be in a traditional format, where there will be a short presentation followed by an oral comment period. A court –reporter will be on hand at the meetings to record statements.

A working group has been established to develop the core elements of the communication strategy, including the talking points, messages, documents to describe the proposed changes, workshops and public meeting details, and website updates.

In the interim, we would like to ask the SAC members to serve as hosts at the workshops and public hearing sites. We ask that you please be at as many meetings as possible to greet the public and be available to speak with them further about the management plan process. We also hope that you can help get people in your community to these meetings and serve as a contact point for your community. During the July SAC meeting for GFNMS, and either during the CBNMS June retreat or a special briefing meeting that we will need to call in June, we will further prepare you for the public hearings and discuss in more detail the role of the SAC members. At that time we will also provide dates and times of each workshop and hearing, and ask members to sign up for specific dates on which they could serve as a host.

Adjourned 3:50 p.m.

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Action Items:

Motion –

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Carol Keiper seconded

All in favor

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**Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council Meeting Agenda
Point Reyes National Seashore Association Building
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Attachments

Attachment #1

JMPR Timeline and Preliminary Roll Out Plan

Hello, my name is Kelley Higgason, and I work with Anne Walton on the Management Plan Review for Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries. I am here today to provide you with a brief update on the status of the JMPR now and to outline a preliminary timeline and roll out plan for the public release of these documents.

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Attachment #2

Education Update 4.13.06

Volunteer Beach Cleanups- In collaboration with FMSA, we are offering a few beach cleanups this year in addition to the annual September CA Coastal Cleanup. A lot of people ask or call both FMSA and myself how they can volunteer. We currently don't have a volunteer program, but felt we could offer a few opportunities throughout the year to bring attention to the pervasive problem of marine debris and do some clean up efforts. Some of the debris collected actually is serving as decoration for a parade float we are working on to exhibit at the Western Days Parade in Point Reyes Station June 4th. I've been working with some volunteers at building it and we will carry it down mainstreet to bring attention to the sanctuaries and marine debris. If anyone would like to help, contact me, we have one date set up May 12 1-6pm, we will probably add one or two more days. Or to help out at parade, that would be great too.

Cordell Bank Field Seminar dates: September 23 and Oct 1. This year offering a free seat to a teacher. Doreen and Carol are both instructors for this seminar.

KWMR radio show- This is a new endeavor and opportunity to reach the West Marin, Sonoma, and parts of SF community. Streams live on the web, I may be calling on each of you for interviews at some point. Great opportunity to establish a regular presence on this comm. Radio station.

Sanctuaries and National Geo. Partnership. Developing activities that revolve around national geo standards two are using Cordell Bank as topic. Our very own Doreen Moser narrates!

BWET: 649,000 awarded this year over 1.9 million requested.