

**MBNMS Research Activity Panel
Meeting Summary
July 2007**

Host: Paul Reilly – Marine Fisheries (California Department of Fish and Game)

Location: California Department of Fish and Game
20 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite 100
Monterey, CA 93940

Date: Friday, July 13th, 2007; 9:00 am to 12 pm

Members PRESENT:

	Name	Discipline	Institution	Primary/ Alternate
X	Breaker, Laurence †	Physical Oceanography	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories	alternate
X	DeVogelaere, Andrew	Research Coordinator	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	
X	Faurot-Daniels, Ellen	Marine Policy	California Coastal Commission	primary
X	Harrold, Chris *	Marine Conservation Biology	Monterey Bay Aquarium	primary
X	Hunt, John	Water Quality	University of California, Davis	alternate
X	Kudela, Raphael	Biological Oceanography	University of California, Santa Cruz	alternate
X	McPhee-Shaw, Erika	Physical Oceanography	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories	primary
X	Wasson, Kerstin	Estuarine Ecology	Elkhorn Slough NERR	primary
X	Yoklavich, Mary	Shelf & Slope Ecology	NOAA Fisheries Service	primary

*Sanctuary Advisory Council Member: Research (Primary)

†Sanctuary Advisory Council Member: Research (Alternate)

Members ABSENT:

	Name	Discipline	Institution	Primary/ Alternate
	Cailliet, Greg	Deep Sea Ecology	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories	primary
	Carr, Mark	Nearshore Ecology	University of California, Santa Cruz	alternate
	Chavez, Francisco	Biological Oceanography	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute	primary
	Coulston, Pat	Fisheries	California Department of Fish & Game	alternate
	Epel, David	Water Quality	Hopkins Marine Station	primary
	Grimes, Churchill	Fisheries	NOAA Fisheries Service	primary
	Micheli, Fiorenza	Marine Conservation Biology	Hopkins Marine Station	alternate
	Paull, Charles	Marine & Coastal Geology	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute	alternate
	Pomeroy, Caroline	Social Sciences	California Sea Grant Extension Program	primary
	Sharp, Gary	Marine Policy	Center for Climate/Ocean Resources Study	alternate
	Starr, Rick	Shelf & Slope Ecology	California Sea Grant Extension Program	alternate
	Storlazzi, Curt	Marine & Coastal Geology	United States Geological Survey	primary
	Van Dyke, Eric	Estuarine Ecology	Elkhorn Slough NERR	alternate

GUESTS:

	Name	Institution
X	Green, Kristen	UC Sea Grant
X	Holden, Ana	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (WQ)
X	Hubler, Sean	California Department of Fish & Game
X	Lucas, Catherine	UC Sea Grant
X	Michel, Paul	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	Oda, Ken	California Department of Fish & Game
X	Osorio, Dave	California Department of Fish & Game
X	Reilly, Paul (Host for Coulston)	California Department of Fish & Game
X	Roletto, Jan	Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary
X	Stevens, Melissa	UC Sea Grant
X	Stuart, Diana	University of California, Santa Cruz
X	Tanaka, Travis	California Department of Fish & Game

CONSENT ITEMS**Introductions/modifications to the agenda (Chris Harrold)**

- Introduction of Paul Michel, new MBNMS Superintendent

PRESENTATIONS**Description of selected Department of Fish and Game Marine Region fishery-independent and fishery-dependent projects in central California waters for 2007 (Paul Reilly et al./CDFG)**

Four speakers focused on different priority research from the CDFG Management Plan:

- Travis Tanaka – California Halibut investigations
- Ken Oda – Surf Perch (mostly Barred Surf Perch)
- Dave Osorio – Assessing the effectiveness of Carmel Pinnacles State Marine Reserve and Pt. Lobos Marine Reserve with fishery independent surveys (i.e., SCUBA surveys, hook and line, stick, trap gear, and mark- recapture techniques)
- Sean Hubler – Fish movement, abundance, age and growth around Pt. Lobos Reserve

Status of marine mortalities in central CA & Domoic Acid (Raphael Kudela)

- A history of domoic acid and paralytic shell fish poisoning was presented
- 2007 was an unusual year for the high levels of domoic acid in Monterey Bay
- Related information can be found at http://www.mbnms-simon.org/sections/openOcean/project_info.php?pid=100173&sec=oo

Food Safety and Environmental Quality: Possible Impacts from New Standards and Guidelines (Diana Stuart/UCSC)

- There is a conflict between best management practices to enhance water quality (i.e., vegetated buffer zones) and certain companies' food safety standards requiring bare

ground buffers and other efforts to eliminate wildlife (though there is inconclusive evidence to indicate wildlife bring harmful pathogens)

- See www.rcdmonterey.org for a report on surveys on how farmers are responding to the pressures they are under
- Relevant research questions:
 - Are wildlife really a threat in terms of pathogens?
 - Can vegetation perhaps slow down E. coli movement?
 - What are the best practices for both food safety and water quality?
- Need increased water quality monitoring to assess changes in water quality as all these changes take place.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Critical research issues of the RAP to provide to Paul Michel (new Superintendent) (DeVogelaere & Harrold)

- RAP members commented that the following items should be Sanctuary priorities:
 - Global warming issues should be included in the Management Plan
 - Stable funding is necessary for long-term monitoring, and developing an endowment fund through the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation should be explored
 - As a government agency, the Sanctuary should focus research efforts on long-term monitoring
 - SIMON is the highest priority for funding and support, from the perspective of the research community
 - SIMON is a priority program that should be supported to coordinate information and fund monitoring
 - A key role for the MBNMS research program is coordinating regional research- sharing information (through SIMON web site, RAP meetings, list serves) and facilitating multi-institution projects
 - Staff should be involved in field research, but the majority program focus should be on coordination and facilitation
 - The Sanctuary should distill and make available lists of needed conservation research projects for graduate students and professional marine researchers to address
 - Ecosystem based research should be considered, to synthesis habitat and species specific regional research
 - There should be a growing focus on human use patterns and their relation to both management practices and resource impact
- Superintendent Michel noted the comments and discussion, and looks forward to further follow up on how to prioritize and focus research needs

SUGGESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11:50 – 12:00

Future Agenda Items:

- Water Quality
 - Findings tracking pathogens in sea otters and connection to FW flows (CDFG, UC Davis?)
 - Critical coastal areas presentation (ASBS, areas water quality impaired, areas in good state; Ross Clark)
 - CCLEAN summary (Central Coast Long-term Environmental Assessment Network; Dane Hardin/Applied Marine Sciences)
- SIMoN: future monitoring (JMPR or beyond)
- SIMoN Special Status Species Project (Jennifer Brown)
- The State of Nation’s Marine Managed Areas (Lisa Wooninck and Rikki Dunsmore)
- Regime Shifts (Larry Breaker)
- Role of offshore MPAs
- Ed Thornton to speak on coastal armoring and coastal erosion
- Linking SIMoN to management (Amber Szoboszlai; January 2008)

2007 RAP Meeting Schedule and Locations

Date	Host	Location
January 12	Pomeroy	CA Sea Grant, Watsonville
March 9	Yoklavich	NOAA Fisheries, Santa Cruz
May 11	Hunt	Granite Canyon, Carmel
July 13	Coulston	CDFG, Monterey
September 14	Wasson	Elkhorn Slough NERR
November 16	Harrold	Monterey Bay Aquarium
