

OLYMPIC COAST
NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
Meeting Minutes

OCNMS Advisory Council Meeting
May 19, 2017

Makah Marina
Neah Bay, WA

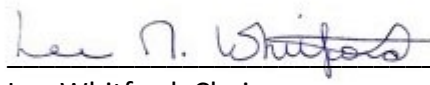
Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
NOAA, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
115 E. Railroad Avenue, Suite 301 Port
Angeles, WA 98362-2925

Reviewed by OCNMS Superintendent:



Carol Bernthal, Superintendent

Approved by AC Chair:



Lee Whitford, Chair

Advisory Council (AC) Members/Alternates in Attendance: Lee Whitford (Education, Chair), Casey Dennehey (Marine Resources Committee, Vice Chair), John Veentjer (Marine Industry, Secretary), Steve Joner (Makah Tribe), Katie Krueger (Citizen at Large), Jan Newton (Research), Jennifer Hagen (Quileute Tribe), Dan Ayres (WDFW), Jennifer Hennessey (WDOE), Katrina Lassiter (WDNR), Carolyn Winters (US Navy), Tom Burlingame (Fishing), John Stadler (NOAANMFS), CDR Aaron Meadows-Hills (US Coast Guard), Steve Shively (Tourism/Economic Development), Rich Osborne (MRC alternate), Josh Peters (WDNR alternate), Mike Barton (Education alternate), Stephanie Sleeman (US Navy alternate)

Presenters and Others in Attendance: Ray Colby (Makah Tribe), Chad Bowechop (Makah Tribe), Michael Lawrence (Makah Tribe), Dale Johnson (Makah Tribe), Katie Wruebel (Makah Tribe), Kris Sarri (National Marine Sanctuary Foundation), Deborah Moriarty (Olympic Coast chapter of NMSF), Jeff Hummel (Rockfish, Inc.), Rick Hansen (Rockfish, Inc.)

NOAA/OCNMS Staff in Attendance: Carol Bernthal, George Galasso, Kevin Grant, Jenny Waddell, Karlyn Langjahr (OCNMS); Dayna Matthews and Greg Busch (NOAA-OLE)

Ray Colby of Makah Tribe welcomed council members and public to Neah Bay and Makah Tribal reservation. He acknowledged the importance of partnerships with federal and state agencies and shared recent updates including the halibut fishery opening, sports fishing and kids' fishing day at the hatchery.

Adopt Agenda– The draft agenda was adopted after Carol noted that NOAA Office of Law Enforcement would introduce their new officer. ***Casey Dennehey motioned to approve the meeting agenda, and John Veentjer seconded. There was no further discussion and motion passed by full AC member consensus.***

Internal Affairs:

Approval of March 2017 SAC Meeting Minutes– There were no edits or changes to the March meeting minutes. ***Dan Ayres motioned to approve the meeting minutes, and Katrina Lassiter seconded. There was no further discussion and motion passed by full AC member consensus.***

OCNMS Nomination for NMSF Volunteer of the Year Award– Karlyn shared that each sanctuary site nominates an outstanding volunteer each year to be considered for the Office of National Marine Sanctuary Volunteer of the Year Award. Susan Griffith was nominated for Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary for her volunteer work in education and as a docent in Olympic Coast Discovery Center. Following a summer teacher professional development with OCNMS focused on Trash Free Seas, Sue brought marine debris education and action to her students at Quileute Tribal School. She helped teach her students and lead them on NOAA Marine Debris Program shoreline debris surveys on First Beach on Quileute Reservation,

inspiring the next generation of ocean stewards. Her students gained a deeper understanding of marine debris, its effect on sanctuary resources, and an appreciation for efforts needed to reduce plastic in our ocean which helps advance OCNMS's mission to protect sanctuary resources through responsible stewardship and conducting/ applying research to preserve the area's ecological and cultural integrity.

The overall ONMS winner was volunteer Kevin Powers of Stellwagen Bank NMS, an internationally-known seabird researcher whose studies provided input into Representative Gerry Studds' efforts to create Stellwagen Bank. After retiring, Kevin returned to Massachusetts to volunteer with Stellwagen's Seabird Stewards program, and soon expanded his volunteer efforts to work with whale tagging, sand lance, and great shearwater research teams. Kevin served more than 1,000 hours in 2016 and serves as an at-large member of the Sanctuary Advisory Council. His research and data analysis expertise significantly increases the capacity of the sanctuary and raises the profile of Stellwagen Bank and all national marine sanctuaries as living laboratories that inform marine conservation actions. On June 13, Kevin Powers will accept the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation's 2017 Volunteer of the Year Award at the Ocean Awards Gala in Washington, D.C., as part of Capitol Hill Ocean Week.

Vessel Incident Working Group– George Galasso, OCNMS, shared that the Vessel Incident Working Group (VIWG) held their first meeting this week with nine members representing diverse agencies and industry, included several SAC members. The Charter was approved and John Veentjer and Allison Mahaney were elected Co-Chairs. The next two meetings have been scheduled for VIWG, with overall plans to review the causes of lost vessels in the sanctuary and to provide recommendations on the prevention of, documentation of, and response to future incidents of lost vessels.

Update on Collaboration with UW School of Marine & Environmental Affairs– George Galasso, OCNMS, updated the council on efforts to work with University of Washington's School of Marine and Environmental Affairs (SMEA) graduate students for their Capstone Project. Students did not select OCNMS Management Plan review as a capstone project, so OCNMS is instead working with two professors to provide documents for their curriculum.

Discuss Date of Joint IPC-SAC Meeting in December– Lee noted that the December meeting had been scheduled for December 1, and that the Intergovernmental Policy Council (IPC) recently requested to hold the annual Joint IPC-SAC meeting during the month of December this year. The IPC is not available on December 1 and requested that it be held on December 8. The meeting location will take place in the southern end of the Olympic Peninsula and Karlyn will send out an updated meeting schedule. Please make the change to December 8 in your calendars.

Lee also reminded the council to give extra time for the commute to the July 21 meeting in Forks, but that the four hour delays around Hwy 101 Lake Crescent will not be in effect Fridays through Sundays. Rich noted that Hwy 112 might be a better route to Forks that day.

Information Items:

Update on OCNMS Fiscal Year 2017 Plans– Carol Bernthal announced that OCNMS is still awaiting the final FY 2017 budget. The overall ONMS budget received base funds of \$51 million (of which \$2 million was earmarked for exploration) and \$2 million or Purchase Acquisition Construction (PAC) funds. It does look like OCNMS will receive level funding of \$1.468 million for the year. Requests made for additional funding will not likely be supported. There will be some labor savings due to Nancy Wright’s retirement on July 31, so OCNMS will now make final decisions for this year. The FY2018 budget should come out in the following week, and there is more uncertainty about next year, including the possibility of insufficient funds to run the oceanographic moorings program.

National SAC Chairs/ Representatives Webinar Meeting– Lee Whitford participated in the National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Chairs and Representatives webinar on March 23. John Armor discussed the confirmation of new Secretary of Commerce, Wilbur Ross, and his priorities addressing trade. NOAA was mentioned in relation to weather and sustainable fisheries. John also spoke about Kris Sarri, new President/CEO of National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, the president’s budget proposal, the national strategic plan, the outcome of National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Recreational Fishing Summit, and more. The draft strategic plan included the establishment of Olympic Coast Sentinel Site for Ocean Acidification to promote resilience and adaptation. A questions was raised about the House subcommittee hearing on impacts to monument and sanctuary designations on fishing industry and local businesses. Lee shared OCNMS’s decision to forego signing the Joint National Advisory Council Enforcement Letter and highlighted some of the individual site reports from other sanctuaries.

Olympic Coast Chapter of National Marine Sanctuary Foundation– Kris Sarri, President and CEO of National Marine Sanctuary Foundation (NMSF), introduced herself and gave an overview of NMSF (www.marinesanctuary.org) mission and goals. As partners and advocates for national marine sanctuaries, NMSF deeply values the connection between communities and coastal environments. NMSF is a 501-3 (c) non-profit working to build partnerships with the federal government and trust responsibilities with corporate sector, federal/state/local governments, and other non-profit entities through 1) community engagement, 2) science and conservation, 3) advocacy. Overall, their emphasis is for local and community-based voices to carry stewardship and action to national level. NMSF hosts the annual Capitol Hill Ocean Week (CHOW) which will take place June 13-15, with three themes this year: 1) Conservation from the Local to the National; 2) Science, Technology, and Exploration; and 3) Health and Social Impacts (important connection between land and sea). It also includes an Ocean Awards Gala, which

recognized inspiring people through four awards: Leadership, Lifetime Achievement, Volunteer of the Year and Conservation Innovation. Now in its 16th year, CHOW brings together policymakers, scientists, scholars, businesses, and conservation leaders to address science, conservation, and management issues and will draw around 700 people nationwide. Vice Chair of NMSF Board of Trustees, James Crowley, has “adopted” Olympic Coast to help OCNMS with fundraising opportunities and partnerships.

Deborah Moriarty, Olympic Coast Coordinator for NMSF, spoke about the planned Marine Discovery Center in Port Angeles that partners have been working on for several years. The partnership would include ocean education and outreach, visitor services and economic development. Partners include OCNMS, Feiro Marine Life Center (FMLC), Port Angeles Waterfront Center (PAWC) and NMSF-Olympic Coast Chapter. The PAWC was established after Donna Morris left \$9 million in her will to Peninsula College Foundation to build a performing and fine arts center to benefit Port Angeles. They purchased the downtown Oak Street waterfront property and invited other partners to join in the development. In 2012 OCNMS, FMLC and the City of Port Angeles began the process of a formal agreement and started investigating possibilities for developing a marine campus. They conducted a feasibility study, site plan and investigated funding options. In 2017 partners entered into an agreement with PAWC to build the new Marine Discovery Center at the location purchased in downtown Port Angeles. The \$17 million overall improvement would entail four phases, of which the first two have been completed (lighting and infrastructure and West End Park). Phase 3 will result in an upgrade to the area near the ferry and phase 4 will revitalize the City Pier.

Now that the Olympic Coast Chapter of NMSF is in place, Deborah will be setting up a Board of Directors to focus on fundraising based on OCNMS priority goals, so if anyone knows of someone who would be interested in serving, contact her at deborah@marinesanctuary.org. Carol added that the partnership aims to create a campus approach so that other activities on site can take place in addition to the Marine Discovery Center, such as having a conference center. This would combine arts, science and culture. Overall, the vision supports economic development in Port Angeles and ties to OCNMS Management Plan to support sanctuary educational programs.

Their presentation can be found online at:

http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/nmsf_joint_facility_update_sarri.moriarty.bernthal.pdf.

Public Comment– Chad Bovechop spoke of the importance of learning intimately about the partners and what it means to be indigenous to an area. He used the example of Makah Tribe and spoke of presenting treaty interests to other resource trustees and the community at large to establish a bridge-building capacity. He shared about Inherent Sovereign Authority captured in the 1855 Treaty of Neah Bay to retain Makah cultural identity. Chad spoke about Makah’s embodying of spiritual aspects into physical aspects, and how interconnected they are. Michael

Lawrence and Dale Johnson also spoke for Makah Tribe, echoing not only the importance of protecting natural resources, but the Makah way of life. Dale spoke about concerns for organizations and agencies parceling up land and ocean and impacts on fisheries.

R/V Tatoosh Replacement Update— Kevin Grant, OCNMS, recently attended the ONMS Small Boats workshop with leadership from ONMS and partners from other branches of NOAA to develop strategies to help ONMS improve efficiency and effectiveness of the ONMS small boat fleet. They addressed the issue of supporting an increasing demand for the fleet and a recapitalization plan. Vessels were categorized for their potential for relocation, repurposing or replacement. Kevin presented on R/V *Tatoosh* at the workshop, and how it is beyond its useful life. He reported that R/V *Tatoosh* should have been replaced in 2008 after its 2001 service life extension. The ONMS Small Vessel Strategic Plan lists improvement of preventative maintenance plan to help extend the life of sanctuary system vessels, which has shown to be effective. Taking that into consideration, R/V *Tatoosh*'s recalculated replacement date of 2011. Since 2011, R/V *Tatoosh* has experienced 26 Casualty Report (CASREP), which refers to breakdowns and unplanned required maintenance. The resulting number of loss of Days at Sea (DAS) shows a positive correlation: the more CASREPs experienced, the greater the loss of DAS. The result is an average of \$20,000 annual repair costs since 2011, with 13.4 days average loss of DAS in that period (or 27% of the planned field work).

Overall workshop results yielded categorizing actions as near-term (begin to address in FY17), medium-term (begin to address in FY17-18), or long-term (begin to address in FY18-19) in nature. Two of the near-term strategies related to R/V *Tatoosh* are to: 1) document the costs and benefits of relocation, repurpose and modification of R/V *Tatoosh* and 4701, the underutilized vessel based at Monterey Bay NMS. One potential idea is to document possible relocation of 4701 to OCNMS as a temporary, band-aid solution with a long-term strategy to recapitalize it. The strategy includes engagement with Capitol Hill, internal NOAA support, community and SAC engagement, NMSF, and an independent review team (IRT). An IRT can help quantify the value added to sites within ONMS by operating a sanctuary vessel, e.g. economic impact, scientific impact, etc. Overall, R/V *Tatoosh* is still the #1 priority for vessel replacement within ONMS. ONMS now has several strategies for its small vessel fleet, with intent of using R/V *Tatoosh* as pilot case. Funding for a new OCNMS vessel is not currently available to ONMS (in PAC budget); Kris Sarri noted that NMSF submitted a request for \$4 million USD in the FY18 budget specifically for a new OCNMS vessel.

Kevin's presentation can be found online at:

http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/small_boat_wkshp_vesselreplacement_kevingrant.pdf.

Update on Olympic Coast Ocean Acidification Sentinel Site— Jenny Waddell, OCNMS, updated the council on Ocean Acidification Sentinel Site (OASeS) efforts and progress over the past several months. Proceedings from the September OASeS will soon be sent out with an

Executive Summary and Next Steps. OCNMS has been working with partners to submit OArealted proposals and has been successful in acquiring an award to conduct a pH measuring device to implement a “pHyter” project for education and citizen science on a West Coast level. They were received a NatGeo award to provide additional funding for nearshore kelp work around Neah Bay and Makah Bay with University of Chicago as the Co-Principal Investigator (PI). They are still waiting to hear about a proposal submitted to conduct a regional vulnerability assessment with Jan Newton and Melissa Poe as Co-PIs, as well as a WA Sea Grant coralline algae proposal.

Partners have increased coordination on OA efforts since the workshop, including participation in an OA Program meeting in early 2017 an overall more communication with OAP staff. There is an upcoming Washington OA Center (WOAC) science symposium open to the public and OCNMS presented to ONMS leadership asking for continued and bolstered support for OASeS while thinking more broadly about the sentinel site visit. There have been discussions with tribal partners and the Intergovernmental Policy Council and plans to include OA components to the E/V *Nautilus* summer 2017 expedition. OA research using E/V *Nautilus* will include enhancements expansion of CTD rosette and purchasing frames and nets for zooplankton samples. They are partnering with PMEL for whole water sampling to better understand direct measure of water and its chemical properties. NWFSC is another partner for zooplankton and pteropod, a pilot project to collect beginning the 2018 field season for oceanographic moorings program. OCNMS is also working with pteropod expert Nina Bednarsek to test a proposed approach for sampling pteropods in conjunction with Terrie Klinger of UW, to help resource managers. They will also have the ability to take whole water samples from depth by ROV to collect eDNA to understand what organisms are present. Jenny listed multiple education and outreach OA activities OCNMS has incorporated. She shared an important video produced by ONMS for its Earth Is Blue campaign: www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKUNmJSXaMw

Kevin added discussions from the most recent OASeS Working Group meeting, including the defining of what a Sentinel Site for OA with its composition of diverse collaborators. Some of the next steps identified include developing a governance council or body to organize the OASeS. Once that is accomplished they will identify specific research, monitoring, education/ outreach priorities.

Jenny’s presentation can be found online at:

http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/oa_sentinelsite_update_jennywaddell_051917.pdf.

Public Comment– Chad Bowechop provided an update on oil pollution and vessel traffic safety work that Makah Tribe has been involved in. Makah Tribe has experienced oil spills in their waters and sanctuary waters. Their Office of Marine Affairs has developed a tribal ocean policy that fits with national policy from National Ocean Policy. Thanks to working with several partners and commenting on the marine salvage and firefighting rules and into authorizing acts,

Neah Bay has an emergency response towing vehicle. Their trust partner for damage assessment perspective lies with U.S. Coast Guard, and in the process the government-to-government consultation process evolved. Chad outlined the ways in which Makah Tribe worked to add Treaty Rights and Treaty Trust Responsibility into the rule by going through the state legislature passing bill requiring the stationing of the rescue tug. The rescue tug has responded to more than 50 actions, including 10 saves. He shared that having an industry partner was key in this process, in addition to federal and state legislature. Chad requested OCNMS time and energy on tracking trust to verify drills and discussions about dispersants through a comprehensive habitat survey and/or critical times of the year for organisms.

Dayna Matthews of NOAA Office of Law Enforcement shared that for the first time in eight years, a job announcement opened for eight special agents of which five were assigned to the West Coast Region. Four are based in California and will be significant for CA sanctuaries. Dayna introduced Lieutenant Greg Busch, Enforcement Supervisor based in Astoria, OR. Lt Busch retired from 30 years with US Coast Guard and comes with significant experience in fisheries. He will have three new officers assigned in Washington State based in Westport, Seattle and Bellingham.

Treaty Tribes and Their Relationship to Management Process— Steve Joner, Makah Tribe, provided background of his work with Makah Tribe over the years and shared the historical overview of tribal co-management. In 1846 the U.S. and Great Britain signed the Treaty of Oregon which established the line between U.S. and Canada, and opened the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Strait of Georgia to both Americans and Canadians, setting an “open and navigable” precedent when U.S. and Makah Tribe signed the Treaty of Neah Bay in 1855. This created conflict over ownership of fishing rights. There are 24 Treaty Tribes (4 Columbia River and 20 from NW Washington), and two tribes on Klamath River with legal fishing rights on their reservation. Tribes are entitled to up to 50% of the harvestable fish. The 1968 U.S. v Oregon case filed by Yakama Nation to define their treating fishing rights; this preceded U.S. v Washington (aka “The Boldt Decision”). When U.S. entered into treaty tribes, a key provision was the exclusive right of taking fish in streams running through and bordering their reservations. U.S. v Oregon ruled that state had limited power in regulating tribes’ ability to exercise their treaty rights, and that fisheries regulations could only be done when necessary for conservation. In 1993, Klamath River tribes were also given 50% harvest rights (even though they are not treaty tribes).

Steve spoke about the five Northwest Washington Treaties of 1854-55 referred to as the “Stevens Treaties”, with common provision of the right to take fish at all usual and accustomed (UA) grounds and stations. The Treaty of Makah features a unique right to take fish and whale or seal at UA grounds. Governor Stevens assured Makah that he was not about to stop their fisheries or whaling. U.S. v Washington came about when the state attempted enforcing regulations on tribal fishers in the 1950-60s. Tribes shared co-management in the Boldt

Decision's ruling. Rulings also established that self-regulating tribes would have strong leadership, well-organized tribal government, enforcement regulations of tribal fishing, trained experts in fisheries sciences and management, an official tribal membership role, and photo identification of tribal fishermen. The court also ruled that tribes would need develop mixed stock fisheries guidelines, establish a Fisheries Advisory Board and determine the UA fishing areas for each tribe. In 1982 Makah established their western boundary, in compliance with Magnuson Act.

Fish wars continued after the rulings, with many Fisheries Advisory Board meetings taking place and Judge Boldt having to enforce his case at times. His decision was both affirmed by the 9th circuit, and upheld by U.S. Supreme Court in 1979 with slight modifications. There were several sub-proceedings of U.S. v Washington, including size limit of Makah's troll fishery and seizing of Makah nets, halibut ruling that it was Makah treaty right. Shellfish were considered fish and deep water species were part of tribe's share. Makah then worked to negotiate terms for other groundfish species, like sablefish and whiting. Steve concluded that it was a long and arduous process of becoming co-managers, but that cooperation has improved over time.

Steve's presentation can be found online at:

http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/tribes_relationship_management_makah_stevejoner.pdf.

Surfrider Foundation's Leadership Academy— Casey Dennehy, Surfrider Foundation, provided an overview of the Surfrider Leadership Academy. The leadership work Casey does with Surfrider as the Washington Coast Program Manager inspired trainings at the Marine Resources Committee (MRC) Summit on facilitation and public meeting requirements, which were popular and well-received. They decided to formalize a leadership training and worked with The Nature Conservancy to strategize an outline to present to other partners and funders. During the summer of 2014, Casey researched and pulled from existing leadership training and programs throughout the nation and interview coastal constituents, staff, and conservation funding community for their input and critique. The fundamental aspect of the program is networked leadership to build bridges by identifying issues and working together to solve them. He described the approach as leading from behind while building relations and collaborating to build consensus. A component they include in their training is understanding personality dynamics through self-awareness using the Myer's Briggs Type Indicator. They bring together hard skills of facilitation and community with soft skills of consensus building and working with others. Story-telling is another key aspect of the training, using the public narrative framework developed by Marshall Ganz. Participants select a group project at the end. Sequentially the SLA begins with a virtual training followed by the first in-person retreat to explore selfawareness. Then participants take second virtual training with another retreat emphasizing peer collaboration, which coincides with the MRC Summit. The final virtual training and retreat highlight network building and consist of finalizing their group project and share it with the community.

To measure the success of the SLA, Surfrider conduct surveys and individual debriefs with participants. Alumni of the SLA Katie Wruebel and Jennifer Hagen spoke about how the program benefitted the work they are doing and how it has enriched them both professionally and personally. Another outcome of the program is a guidebook combining a report and the implementation aspects. They are expecting an award to conduct a third year of SLA in 2017, and Casey anticipates recruitment to begin this summer with timeline of August to December. Candidates may apply or be nominated. He will send out the application materials to share with anyone who might be interested. He noted that the program is for emerging and current leaders and that there is no cost to the participant apart from in-kind time.

Casey's presentation can be found online at:

http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/surfriderleadershipacademy_caseydennehy_2017.5.19.pdf.

Superintendent's Report – Carol referred council members to the May 2017 Office Report for updates on sanctuary activity in the past two months, which can also be found online at:

http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/office_report_may_2017.pdf.

1. Carol acknowledged the passing of former Governor Mike Lowry, who was key in the designation process of OCNMS. He attended the sanctuary's 10th anniversary ceremony. Gene Woodrick, longtime coastal resident and journalist, also recently passed away. She ran the Ocean Shores Visitor Center and made a positive impact on her community.
2. Two executive orders came out in the past month. One is to review all designations and expansions of 100,000 acres or more since 1996, most of which are terrestrial. The second calls for Secretary of Commerce to look at areas designated as marine national monuments, which include Rose Atoll, Papahānaumokuākea, Pacific Islands Remote Island Area, and Northeast Atlantic monuments designated under Antiquity Act. One of the concerns that came up is whether there was a robust public process to consider their designations. Under this provision there is a requirement that ONMS refrain from designation or expanding any areas until an analysis is conducted for oil and gas potential, along with economic impacts (America-First Offshore Energy Program). There is a requirement to complete the analysis within 180 days and ONMS began working on it.
3. ONMS Director John Armor visited OCNMS for five days. During that time he and OCNMS met with Makah Tribe to discuss issues of common interest. He attended the Intergovernmental Policy Council meeting and met many local partners. He received briefings from staff and learned about key projects including OA Sentinel Site. Carol took John to Shi Shi beach for the WA Coast Cleanup with a youth stewardship group from Port Townsend.
4. George and Nancy completed the ATBA Analysis for 2016 and reported a 97.3% compliance rate. Carol thanked U.S. Coast Guard for their partnership on these efforts.
5. On June 5 OCNMS will co-host a presentation by whale expert John Calamokidis of

Cascadia Research at Peninsula College in Port Angeles at 6:30pm. He will be speaking about the return of Gray and Humpback whales in the Salish Sea. OCNMS's life-size inflatable humpback whale, "Big Mama" will be on display from 5-6pm.

Member Reports and Future Agenda Topics

- Aaron Meadows-Hills noted that U.S. Coast Guard has two new staff: Captain Sturgis came on in March as Sector Commander and is returning to an area that she is very familiar with, and they anticipate OCNMS advisory council will remain a priority. New Admiral is David Throop began a few weeks ago.
- Jennifer Hagen shared that she runs a biotoxin program at the Quileute lab and noted high levels that could be problematic for razor clams; they are watching levels closely. APL and NOAA's Cha'ba buoy is back in the water, as well as the Environmental Processor which can detect HABs. Quileute Tribe is also ramping up derelict crab gear removal. She requested future agenda topics on the offshore processing discharge, as the Federal Register Notice should come out in the next few weeks with a 45 day comment period. Jennifer would like to request a longer comment period. She is also interested in learning more about the cruise ship industry and those that have discharge agreements with Washington state. This could be an opportunity for WDOE, who oversees this, to get input to ensure all ships coming into Puget Sound have a signed agreement similarly to oil spill agreements. Cruise ships are not only increasing in size, but in number. Jennifer Hennessey shared that there is work creating a no discharge zone and believes it is being led by EPA at this point.
- Josh Peters attended the DNR Olympic Region all-hands meeting in La Push yesterday.
- Casey Dennehy asked to keep eyes out for the announcement on Surfrider Foundation's Leadership Academy to help spread the word. They are also in the early stages of planning this year's Marine Resources Committee Summit, which will probably take place in Cathlamet.
- Steve Joner noted that the opening of halibut fishery was a month later due to serious weather. This year they are fishing on a number much greater than it would have been, due to persuading NMFS to allocate to the tribes based on the Conservation Necessity Principle. He and Rob Jones calculated 2A for 1.33 million, of which 35% goes to Tribes and the rest to recreational and commercial fisheries.
- Jennifer Hennessey received early input on the preliminary draft Marine Spatial Plan at the recent Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council meeting. The state is working through those comments and revising the draft plan, and hopes to have the draft EIS ready for public comment for late June, with at least 30 days for comment period.
- Steve Shively shared that tourism continues to do very well on the Olympic Peninsula with new record numbers year-to-date. Kalaloch Lodge has a new General Manager, Joe Asalo, and the SAC Tourism/Economic Development alternate, Cedar Shannon, just moved to Colorado for a new position. They hope to stay engaged for Get Into Your

Sanctuary programs this year. The Seattle International Film Festival began yesterday with a large Chinese crew from a large network will be spending three days on the peninsula. Olympic Culinary Loop is one of the sponsors of Dungeness Crab and Seafood Festival (October 6-8) and Steve noted that lodging in Port Angeles has already sold out. Steve received a grant from Port of Port Angeles to produce an educational placement for the festival; he will work with OCNMS education staff to produce information on Dungeness Crab and ocean acidification.

- Jan Newton was able to tell the story of Washington's ocean acidification at a conference in Tokyo. She also participated in the Marine Resources Advisory Council Refresh that advises WA state on OA and how it impacts our waters and human communities. Jan is excited about Monday's science symposium on UW campus and is very happy that Cha'ba buoy is back in the water and thanked Jennifer/ Quileute. She recommended that folks visit the www.Nanoos.org website to view new updates. The LiveOcean model will go up very soon, with additional oxygen, nutrients and phytoplankton.
- Dan Ayres stated that HABs are an issue again, with a big problem on the Long Beach Peninsula. Razor clam digging opened in April for a total of 11 days before domoic acid returned. The WDFW bag limit had increased from 15 to 25 razor clams, attracting 17,000 clam diggers on a single day before the closure. He also shared about the whale entanglement workshop for crab fishers with 70+ participants discussing ideas. Two weeks ago on the Long Beach Peninsula, a fairly young gray whale was found dead entangled in 8 crab pots. There are federal funds to develop a crew to work on entanglements.
- Tom Burlingame shared that the salmon setting process was set for this year, with a bit better forecasted year for recreational, commercial and tribal fishing. The North Coast recreational fishing opens June 24 through Labor Day or until quota is reached. He anticipates that next year will have a smaller catch limit due to sea conditions in 2015.
- Katrina Lassiter mentioned that the razor clam dig coincided with a beach cleanup she led at Ocean Shores for the WA Coast Cleanup. She stated that they are seeking \$200,000 in funding for Marine Spatial Planning efforts to implement the plan, work on data gaps and finish the science need assessment and ecosystem indicators.
- John Veentjer stated that they conducted a safety workshop and that the vessel traffic risk assessment was sponsored by the state. Canadians have their Ocean Protection Plan and they hope for international collaboration. He reported no significant change in overall vessel counts, but that container ship numbers are down due to being larger in size. There are more bulkers this year compared to recent years, as well as cruise ships.
 - Katie Krueger is excited to judge the OCNMS ROV competition this weekend at Forks High School for product presentation and teamwork. She has a list of ideas based on the NMSF presentation and will send to OCNMS and NMSF staff.

- Carolyn Winters requested a copy of the Vessel Incident Working Group Charter from George to determine whether someone from US Navy is appropriate to join or provide feedback.
- Rich Osborne is working with Makah Tribe on tested the MERHAB program this summer between Neah Bay and Juan de Fuca gyre. You can find it on NANOOS's webpage. • Mike Barton has been able to assist with sampling of non-native green crabs at Dungeness Wildlife Refuge, which has been making front-page news. There is significant concern based on the numbers of green crabs found and is hopeful that the problem is not as serious as it is feared to be.

The next OCNMS Advisory Council meeting will take place on **Friday, July 21st** in Forks at the Olympic Natural Resources Center.