

**OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY**

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

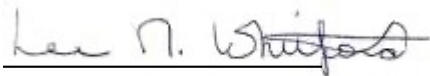
**OCNMS Advisory Council  
Virtual meeting**

**Friday, January 21, 2021  
Meeting Notes**

Reviewed by OCNMS Superintendent:



Carol Bernthal, Superintendent



Lee Whitford, Chair

**Advisory Council (AC) Members/Alternates and Intergovernmental Policy Council (IPC) Members in Attendance:** Lee Whitford (AC Chair, Education), John Veentjer (Secretary) and Dan Nutt (Maritime Industry), Joel Kawahara (Fishing), Joe Schumacker (Quinault Indian Nation), CDR John Fu (US Coast Guard), Jan Newton and Tom Mumford (Research), Heidi Eisenhour (Jefferson County), Kevin Decker and Steve Shively (Tourism and Economic Development), Steve Joner (Makah Tribe), Dan Ayres (WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife), Mike Doherty and Jim Vail (Citizen at Large), Casey Dennehy (Vice Chair, WA Dept. of Ecology), Josh Peters and Hannah Blackstock (Washington Dept. of Natural Resources), Rich Osborne (Conservation), Mark Ozias (Clallam County), Sarah Creachbaum (Olympic National Park), Jennifer Brown-Scott (US Fish & Wildlife), Jennifer Hagen (Quileute Tribe), Cindi Kunz (US Navy).

**Presenters and Others in Attendance:** Erin Arneson (Nancy Foster Scholar)  
**NOAA/OCNMS Staff in Attendance:** Andrew Torres and Greg Busch (NOAA Fisheries, Office of Law Enforcement), Jennifer Clinchy (NOAA Office of General Counsel, Carol Bernthal, Jacqueline Laverdure, Katie Wrubel, Jenny Weddell, George Galasso, Holly Keedy, Anna Hallingstad, Cheyenne Palmo, Nicole Harris, and Chris Butler-Minor (Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary).

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The meeting was opened by Lee Whitford, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) Advisory Council (AC) Chair, with a reading of Saul Weisberg's poem "On the Hoh River."

### **Internal Affairs**

- The amended draft agenda was adopted by consensus after a motion by Mike Doherty and second by Joel Kawahara. <https://nmsolympiccoast.blob.core.windows.net/olympiccoast-prod/media/docs/20210122-sac-agenda.pdf>
- Meeting notes from the November meeting were approved with a motion by Dan Ayres and second by Mike Doherty. <https://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/media/docs/20200722-sac-final-notes.pdf>
- The council adopted the 2021 Meeting Schedule with a motion by Steve Shively and a second by Heidi Eisenhour. <https://nmsolympiccoast.blob.core.windows.net/olympiccoast-prod/media/docs/20201106-sac-notes.pdf>
- Recruitment is open through January 29, 2021 for the primary Marine Business/Ports/Industry seat and the alternate conservation seat.
- John Veentjer, the current primary seat for Marine Industry is retiring and has reached the term limit. Lee Whitford and Carol Bernthal expressed thanks for his many contributions to the council including serving as AC Secretary, ATBA and oil spill ally, and on several working groups in addition to frequently having perfect attendance.
- New Vessel updates confirmed the construction project is going smoothly with expected delivery in late July or early August. The new 51 foot research vessel will be named after a local seabird in accordance with its class. Advisory council member input on a suite of names will be requested at the March meeting. John Armor will select the final name based on staff, tribal, and SAC recommendations.

- In the SAC chairs meeting debrief discussion included ONMS 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary planning, a new collaborative Smithsonian/NMSF publication *America's Marine Sanctuaries: A Photographic Exploration* <https://www.smithsonianbooks.com/store/upcoming-titles/americas-marine-sanctuaries-photographic-explorati/>, along with the importance of diversity and inclusion in all our work, which includes acknowledging cultural heritages and in recruitment efforts.

## **Information, Discussion, and Action Items**

### **Discuss and Adopt 2021 Advisory Council Work plan.**

<https://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/media/docs/2021-ac-workplan.pdf>

The council adopted the draft 2021 Advisory Council work plan as presented with an additional action to the Blue Economy topic of increasing commercial fisheries awareness amongst the council through presentations and other shared information. The council also discussed the goal of providing letter of support for European green crab monitoring/ trapping to the Governor's office through a resolution at the March meeting. Council members were invited to sign up to participate in the climate change focused Rapid Vulnerability Assessment working group and/or the future Whale Conservation working group. The motion to adopt was given by Joel Kawahara and seconded by Steve Joner.

### **Advisory Council Officer elections**

In one of his final duties as Council Secretary, John Veentjer oversaw the elections for officer positions on the council. The nominations received in advance were presented and no other nominations were received. Joel Kawahara made a motion to re-elect Lee Whitford as the Chair, which was seconded by Mike Doherty. Dan Ayres made the motion to re-elect Casey Dennehy as Vice Chair, which was seconded by Lee Whitford. Rich Osborne moved to elect Steve Shively as Secretary and was seconded by Lee Whitford. The executive committee was accepted by consensus.

### **OASeS working group updates**

<https://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/media/docs/20210304-ocean-acidification.pdf>

Katie Wrubel updated the council on actions taken at the first meeting of the OASeS working group including selection three of co-chairs, finalization of terms of reference, and drafting their 2021 work plan. Outstanding questions were identified during breakout sessions. Nancy Foster Scholar, Erin Arneson shared action items related to management, science, as well as education and outreach. Near-term action items were also shared.

### **Condition Report updates**

[https://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/media/docs/CR\\_Briefing AC 1-22-2021.pdf](https://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/media/docs/CR_Briefing AC 1-22-2021.pdf)

Jenny Waddell provided information on the remaining steps for the Condition Report. Contributors were thanked for their efforts and particularly for helping capture the new aspects of representing the reciprocal relationship between humans and the environment plus integrating indigenous voices and perspectives in determining the status and trends of sanctuary resources over the past decade. A full draft has been compiled and key partners have been invited to review it.

Katie Wrubel described that the condition report will be useful for conducting a climate change rapid vulnerability assessment (RVA) which will aid integration of climate change into the upcoming management plan. A SAC working group, forming in early 2021 will assist in assessing future resource conditions through RVA training and workshop in 2021 and a completed report in early 2022.

George Galasso spoke of planning considerations for the 2022 management plan review (vs. the 2011 implementation) along with pre-initiation steps along with rulemaking reviews.

## **Superintendent Reports**

<https://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/media/docs/office-rpt-vol9no1.pdf>

- Carol shared images and stories in memory of Nancy Wright, retired GIS Analyst with OCNMS 2008-2017. [https://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/media/docs/Nancy M Wright.pdf](https://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/media/docs/Nancy_M_Wright.pdf)
- National Marine Sanctuaries recently featured a web story “Celebrating our 2020 Volunteers of the Year” which includes Jan Newton for OCNMS.
- Kevin Grant will be returning to his position at OCNMS post detail at Monterey Bay. George Galasso will be on detail at Monterey Bay from February to June.
- The October mapping by NOAA Ship Fairweather in the Strait of Juan de Fuca and east of Cape Flattery will be aid habitat classifications and be incorporated into the area’s habitat framework.
- Monday, Jan 25<sup>th</sup> – OCNMS will hold a virtual Blue economy tourism workshop (sustainable tourism in the sanctuary) with members of the Olympic Peninsula Tourism Commission.
- This fall, a survey of the Pacific Crossing cable will characterize the condition of the cable as well surrounding habitat to assess whether it had an impact and the habitat response.

## **Member Reports**

Casey Dennehy- Announced Teresa Pucylowski has transferred to a new section within the Dept. of Ecology. The Dept. of Ecology continues to prioritize marine spatial planning and is reviewing federal actions within Washington’s Coastal Zone for consistency with state policies.

Dan Ayres- WDFW must delay commercial Dungeness crab fishery and recreational razor clam opening due to domoic acid levels. Whale entanglements continue to be a concern.

Heidi Eisenhower – She is three weeks into her new appointment as a Jefferson County Commissioner.

Joe Schumacker- Quinault Indian Nation fisheries have been affected by Pseudo-nitzschia blooms. They are regularly conducting water quality tests.

John Veentjer- Vessel traffic into the Puget Sound in 2020 was down and has the dubious distinction of being the worst year on record. He invited SAC members to reach out for information about Puget Sound Harbor Sound Safety Committee (<https://pshsc.org/>).

Mark Ozias- Clallam County is engaging in climate change data sharing and standing up an internal team to establish priorities and goals. They received a grant for six electric car charging stations at the courthouse.

Mike Doherty- Seattle Heritage Institute is holding a public lecture series. He is concerned that OA discussions and the OCNMS do not address air quality monitoring.

Rich Osborne- Recent whale reports say that gray and humpback whales have been spotted recently in the Strait of Juan de Fuca raising the potential for resident whale populations of these species.

Sarah Creachbaum- Olympic National Park is staying incredibly busy. Rialto Beach just opened again after large winter storms.

Steve Shively- Tourism as a whole is slowly recovering. Lodging Tax receipts for 2020 came in just below 2017 numbers. SB 5114 - 2021-22: Concerning safely reopening Washington requesting reopening under the provisions of Phase 2 of the “Healthy Washington-Roadmap to Recovery” plan is before the state senate.

Kevin Decker- The next Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council Economic Resilience Webinar Series workshop will be held on February 11<sup>th</sup>. He invited SAC members reach out for more information.

Steve Joner- The 97<sup>th</sup> International Pacific Halibut Commission meeting begins next week. Internally they have been working toward higher catch limits in WA and OR largely due to tribal efforts and will begin working on planning for the long term with a new federal appointee.

Jennifer Hagen– Recommendations from the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) Advisory Committee have been sent to the NOAA Administrator and the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee (IOOC). King tides along the coast have resulted in flooding in several communities. Monitoring continues to confirm safe crab harvests.

Jan Newton – The Coordinated Ocean Observations and Research (ICOOS) Act of 2020 reauthorized IOOS. Northwest Association of Networked Ocean Observing Systems (NANOOS) submitted their five-year operating proposal. NANOOS will be updating their website to link to J-Scope, a new ecosystem forecasting app. John Mickett, UW Applied Physics Lab is working towards real-time data for OCNMS. The next NOAA West Watch will be held on Jan 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Future Agenda Topics**

Members are encouraged to contact AC Chair and/or Coordinator with suggestions for topics of interest to the council. Items noted include:

- Condition Report progress
- Acoustic monitoring in OCNMS
- Status of National Science Foundation Cascadia plate seismic survey
- Pacific Crossing cable survey results

### **Location of Next Meetings**

<https://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/meetings.html>

*Friday, March 26, 2021*

Location is virtually via GoToWebinar

Registration URL: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6587437357418080014>