

OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
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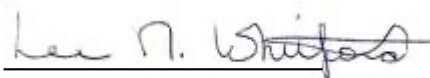
**OCNMS Advisory Council
Virtual meeting**

**Friday, July 23, 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), Casey Dennehy (Vice Chair, WA Dept. of Ecology), Steve Shively (Secretary, Tourism and Economic Development), Linda Sturgis (Maritime Industry), CDR John Fu (US Coast Guard), Hannah Blackstock (Washington Dept. of Natural Resources), Joe Schumacker (Quinault Indian Nation), Mike Doherty (Citizen at Large), Mark Ozias (Clallam County), Rich Osborne (Conservation), Jan Newton (Research), Jim Vail (Citizen at Large), Julie Ann Koehlinger (Hoh Tribe), Liz Schotman (Conservation), Dawn Grebner (US Navy), Heidi Eisenhour (Jefferson County), and Kevin Decker (Tourism and Economic Development)

Presenters and Others in Attendance: Lindsey Peavey-Reeves (West Coast Region Sanctuary [Soundscape Monitoring](#) Project Coordinator), Zac Cannizzo (National Marine Sanctuary Foundation Visiting Climate Scientist and Climate Coordinator), Anastasia Kunz (Bren School of Environmental Science & Management), and Tommy Moore (NWIFSC)

NOAA/OCNMS Staff in Attendance: Andrew Torres (NOAA Fisheries, Office of Law Enforcement), Jennifer Clinchy (Office of General Counsel) Carol Bernthal, George Galasso, Jenny Weddell, Katie Wrubel, Nicole Harris, and Chris Butler-Minor (Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary).

The meeting was opened by Lee Whitford, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) Advisory Council (AC) Chair.

Internal Affairs

- The draft agenda was adopted.
- Meeting notes from the May meeting were approved with a motion by Steve Shively and second by Mark Ozias.
- Liz Schotman was introduced to the council as the new alternate seat for Conservation. With Liz on the council all seats are filled and recruitment is currently closed.
- Discussion on the format of future meetings indicated an interest in a mix of face to face meetings and virtual. An interest in hybrid style meetings was also expressed. OCNMS is not currently approved for in-person meetings, however the executive committee will provide a recommendation to the superintendent based on the discussion. A request to hold the September meeting in-person will be submitted.

Information, Discussion, and Action Items

“SanctSound”: Acoustics monitoring in OCNMS

Lindsey Peavey Reeves, Ph.D., the West Coast Region Sanctuary Soundscape Monitoring Project Coordinator provided the council with background information on the SanctSound project and how OCNMS is connected to the project. OCNMS has four of the 12 west coast listening stations deployed. The two northern stations (OCO1 in kelp forest habitat and OCO2 in shipping lanes) are providing good data but the two southern noise reference stations (OCO3 and OCO4) are in “cold storage.” Data collection will continue through 2022. The program will seek new partners, funding, and potential sites with the transition in Spring 2022. OCO1 is inside the Southern Resident Killer Whale critical habitat as well as Humpback habitat. Co-located telemetry with National Marine Fisheries Service assets in proposed critical habitat for Humpbacks has shown consistent patterns in foraging time and then a singing season (November – March) within the sanctuary. She referred attendees to SanctSound web stories [<https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/news/feb21/sanctsound-overview.html>] which provides bite-sized content and media to walk audiences through the interop of the sound stories.

West Coast regional climate impact profile

Zachary J. Cannizzo, Ph.D. the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation

Visiting Climate Scientist and Climate Coordinator explained the West Coast regional (WCR) climate impact profile publication. It provides an overview for climate change in the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem which connects all five WCR sanctuaries along with best available science at the sites level on changing upwelling and ocean chemistry, warming waters, changes to atmospheric and oceanic processes, sea level rise, and harmful algal blooms (HABS) in addition to three site specific cases. The studies cover warming waters in Channel Island NMS, kelp forests in Greater Farallones NMS, and pteropod vulnerability to ocean acidification in OCNMS. This profile is intended to aid better understanding of the impacts of climate change at a region level and how to adapt and/or mitigate at the site level.

Resolution to provide recommendations to OCNMS superintendent in response to Executive Order 14008, Sect 216

Kevin Decker, Tourism and Economic Development alternate, introduced the Climate Change Working Groups recommendations to OCNMS' superintendent for implementing Executive Order 14008, Sect 216 aka "30x30". The council deliberated on adoption of the resolution. The length of the letter was previously noted as an issue during the May meeting. The working group decided the length of the letter was appropriate so that none of the detailed suggestions were lost. Kevin formally made the motion to approve the 30x30 recommendation and Mark Ozias seconded. The motion passed by consensus. The recommendations will be forwarded to ONMS headquarters with an acknowledgement from Superintendent Carol Bernthal.

Superintendent Report

Carol announced she will be retiring on September 30th of this year after 20+ years of service and many milestones have been reached. She expressed her thanks for many successful partnerships. Carol will work with the west coast regional director in transition planning. Work has started on the fiscal year 2022 budget. Staff are looking to optimize climate change and indigenous engagement efforts internally and with partners.

The R/V *Storm Petrel* sea trials began last week. OCNMS staff will receive training from All American Marine in Bellingham, WA on August 10-11. OCNMS will formally take possession of the vessel on August 12th. A contract skipper for the vessel has been hired. Staff are planning an in-person dedication ceremony in late September. The R/V *Tatoosh* will be used for deploying moorings, however, the R/V *Storm Petrel* will recover moorings in the fall.

Research Coordinator, Jenny Waddell provided information on the 8/1 – 8/2/21 E/V *Nautilus* Cascadia margin methane seep cruise ((NA128). While most dives will occur in Oregon waters, the salmi plume dive, near Grays Harbor and north of Quileute Canyon, plus more dives off Nitinat Canyon border OCNMS. Since 2016, over 3,500 seep locations have been identified.

Get Into Your Sanctuary is taking place during the first week of August. Janine Ledford of the Makah Tribe is giving a webinar presentation "Journey to the Beginning of the World" on August 4th. On Sunday, August 8 from 7-9am Nicole and Chris will be leading "Tidepool takeover" at Kalaloch Beach 4.

Carol wished farewell to AmeriCorps members Holly and Cheyenne who have completed their service. Two new members will be onboard in September.

Member Reports

Commander John Fu shared information on personnel changes for summer. Cruise ship vessel traffic

operations started up earlier this week. Inspections will also address COVID concerns.

Andrew Torres announced that in collaboration with WCR staff Operation Clean Seas, focused on reducing prohibited discharges, launched over the July 4 weekend. Enforcement officers will distribute informational handouts. He is also working with George Galasso, OCNMS to follow up on how to move forward in this campaign and work towards an annual campaign. OLE is considering working with tribal partners in handing out information.

Casey Dennehey stated that DOE is hoping to distribute results from marine spatial data and prioritization. In the next couple of years, DOE will go through the process called Geographical location descriptions in which coastal zone management identifies activities tied to water quality and impacts to fisheries. He offered to give a presentation to council at a future meeting.

Dawn Grebner indicated that the record of decision to finalize the new EIS is expected in late July or early August.

Hannah Blackstone affirmed that Josh Peters has moved on from WDNR to WDFW and so she will take the primary seat.

Jan Newton spoke about real time moorings with real time data reporting and showing hypoxic conditions in addition to OCNMS mooring and NOAA vessel Ron Brown Ocean Acidification Program (OA) cruise data. The OAP vessel has reported hypoxia on the continental shelf. Sea surface temperatures higher than two standard deviations registered somewhat briefly in conjunction with a marine heat wave located far off the in the northeast Pacific coast along with strong upwelling. Jan shared this information in a recent NOAA Westwatch presentation.

Jan shared that funding is in place for the continuation of HABs networks, including new work in Oregon. Washington ocean acidification center has a new biannual budget for continued observations and modeling on biological organisms (forage fish and salmon). Looking at nexus with HABs and OA. Yay for the new vessel.

Joe Schumacher shared that razor clam assessments show all beaches have extraordinary numbers of recruitments and clams. Winds from the south are concerning as Pseudo-nitzschia HABs continue to threaten stocks, especially along Oregon beaches. Seasonal hypoxia is strong this year.

JulieAnn Kohlinger noted a hypoxia induced fish kill event on the Hoh Tribe Reservation beach. The US Coast Guard notified the Hoh Tribe they are discontinuing funding for the river gauge which has provided important information for both tribal fishers and recreational fishers. The Hoh Tribe is looking for ways to keep it functioning such as reaching out to US representative Kilmer and affected groups. She asked council members to contact her with suggestions. Julie Ann also announced that Wendy Largent resigned from her position with the Hoh Tribe and that JulieAnn is the interim Natural Resource Director effective first of August.

Kevin Decker announced that July boat sales, annual fleet data, and recreational fishing resource allocation data will be available on WACoastEconomist.com.

Linda Sturgis shared that the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region is considering grants with FEMA to address resiliency in Cascadia Rising exercises. The next planning meeting will be held on July 26, with a workshop on September 9 to look at regional efforts and planning around resiliency and relief efforts via maritime channels. Email Linda at Linda.a.sturgis@gmail.com for more information

Mike Doherty queried whether the OCNMS intertidal field guide can be reproduced or printed by a local MRC to distribute copies through park rangers with State Parks.

Mark Ozias announced that Clallam County is working through prioritizing use of American Recovery Act funding. Also, after 12 years, the County and State DOE have agreed on language for the county's Shoreline Management Plan.

Rich Osborne relayed that the annual International Coastal Cleanup will be held a week earlier than usual, on September 11 (start times are beach location and tide dependent)

Steve Shively: Tourism is hot and happening. The peninsula is experiencing "revenge tourism" in record numbers. Businesses are being challenged by shortages of both staff and supplies thus services are commonly reduced and operating hours are limited. (Grays Harbor has closed down this weekend.) Clallam and Jefferson counties will be going back to mask requirements starting as early as Monday.

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
- 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>

TBD: Wednesday, September 22 or Friday, September 24, 2021

If location is virtual GoToMeeting will be used. Registration is not required. Join at <https://www.gotomeet.me/NOAANational-Marine-Sanctuaries/ocnms-advisory-council-meeting> or dial in [+1 \(872\) 240-3212](tel:+18722403212) Access Code: 664-769-077