



**GULF OF THE FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY (GFNMS) AND
CORDELL BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY (CBNMS)
JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING KEY MEETING OUTCOMES**

Red Barn Classroom

Point Reyes, CA

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Thursday, June 7, 2012

Note: The following meeting notes are an account of discussions at the Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or position of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, REVIEW AGENDA

Copies to:

Bill Douros ONMS West Coast Regional Office

Richard Charter called the meeting to order at: 9:20 AM

Review Agenda

The Tomales Bay Vessel Management Plan agenda item has been removed due to a hold-up with State Lands. It has been approved; State Lands just needs to sign off on it.

Superintendent's Report:

The Sanctuary responded to two boat groundings since the last council meeting. They were the Barbara Faye, which grounded in Point Reyes and the Low Speed Chase, which grounded at Southeast Farallon Island.

The Grounding of the Low Speed Chase

On April 14, the 38-foot sailing vessel grounded on the offshore Farallon Islands, in one of the most remote and treacherous wilderness areas. This tragic accident left 5 people dead and became a lead news story throughout the San Francisco Bay area. This was an extremely complicated salvage operation because the boat was wrecked in the middle of a major sea lion haul out area, and was next to several thousand seabirds that were on the brink of laying eggs. GFNMS successfully worked with USFWS and National Marine Fisheries Service to secure necessary permits and authorizations within a few days of the accident, including a GFNMS salvage permit with over 20 conditions related to protecting sanctuary resources. GFNMS also successfully initiated a Temporary Flight Restriction through the Federal Aviation Administration to successfully close the airspace around the wreck, creating a protection buffer of 3000 feet above and two miles surrounding the wreck during operations. Finally, GFNMS was sure to have timely communications with the media and developed a unified message with USFWS. The result was that the vessel was successfully removed in one operation, minimizing harm to seabirds and marine mammals from salvage and media operations, preventing future harm to the



Sanctuary. If the vessel had been left there, then it could have caused additional wildlife disturbance and risk to human life as an "attraction" for the curiosity factor of boaters and pilots. If it had broken up, fuel may have spilled, and wildlife entanglement and other dangers from marine debris could have arisen.

The Grounding of the Barbara Faye

On May 15, a 43 ft fishing vessel, the Barbara Faye, grounded onshore of the Sanctuary in National Park Wilderness Area of the Point Reyes National Seashore, adjacent to large seabird colonies and marine mammal haul-outs. Due to the failure of the responsible party to remove the vessel, the U.S. Government had to act immediately to minimize the damage to sensitive environments within the GFNMS. GFNMS successfully coordinated efforts between Sanctuary headquarters, the Seashore and the NOAA contracts office to prevent the vessel from breaking up and causing damage to nearby resources. In a true team effort, removal of the vessel was completed in record time before damage to the sanctuary's natural resources occurred. The Barbara Faye was comprised of chemical-laden wood and plastic and contained commercial fishing gear and shipboard chemicals. Removal of the vessel prior to breaking up and releasing marine debris and chemical hazards was critical to protecting Federal resources under the Trusteeship of NOAA.

Permits

A salvage permit was issued for the removal of the sailing vessel Low Speed Chase on West End Island, Southeast Farallon Islands (April 22, 2012-April 26, 2012). The activity involved salvage of the S/V Low Speed Chase from the rocky shoreline at West End Island, near Southeast Farallon Island. This involved extracting the vessel from the site by operating a large helicopter (Erickson S-64 Air Crane) below 1000 feet in a restricted overflight zone at the Farallon Islands. It also involved using a smaller, 4-passenger helicopter for transporting personnel.

The sanctuary is reviewing an application for an education permit to James Moskito, from Great White Adventures, to run ecotourism trips for the general public in the waters around the Farallon islands. Mr. Moskito requests use of decoys to attract white sharks and use of fish "scent" to attract other fish species for the purpose of educational tourism and filming. The application mentions using both diving and mobile cages to view white sharks.

The sanctuary is reviewing an application for an education permit to David Marks to make a 3D IMAX film about white sharks in the waters around Farallon islands.

The *White Shark Programmatic Environmental Assessment* has been sent to partner agencies for comment. After that, it will be open for public comment. The goal is to have the public comment closed by August.

Budget Update

The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary was level-funded, but then got a 5% rescission. The sanctuary is dealing with the cuts through staff reduction and other efficiencies. The sanctuary will be hiring a contract position in the coming weeks, to provide support for resource protection, specifically oil spill response and permitting.



Marine Debris Program

The Sanctuary has received funding to develop a Tsunami Marine Debris Monitoring Program through NOAA's Department of Response and Restoration. The program will train volunteers to survey 5 beach locations along the sanctuary coastline roughly every 28 days for two years. Volunteers will perform standing stock surveys, recording the type, amount, and location of marine debris present in each site. The surveys will provide important information about debris deposition rates and impacts to beach sites over time, as well as inform regional and site-specific comparisons, and provide insights into priority target areas for debris prevention and mitigation.

Cordell Bank update from Dan Howard

The first ACCESS cruise of the season will go out at the end of June. ACCESS is a partnership with GFNMS and PRBO Conservation Science.

In August, CBNMS will be working with Autonomous Underwater Vehicles off the *Fulmar*, and staying at Bodega Marine Lab.

Cordell Bank and Romburg Tiburon Center completed their first climate change teacher workshop. They will be doing a field trip to Hog Island, where they will look at some oyster research studies. There were 40 available spots, and 70 teachers applied.

Cordell Bank was chosen to represent ocean habitats for a project with the Oakland Museum of California. It will be the first exhibit in the science wing, and there will be a soft opening in October. They are recreating the benthic cover with a lot of samples from marine debris from our cruises.

The Cordell Bank plans for the Essential Fish Habitat review by the Pacific Fisheries Management Council will be a recommendation to maintain status quo. This entails a prohibition on the use of bottom contact gear and no trawl zones on the shelf and slope.

Advisory Council Business (Possible Council Action)

Motion to approve the Feb 2012 Key Meeting Outcomes:

Motion: Bruce Bowser

Second: Richard Kuehn

Vote: In favor

The Key Meeting Outcomes can be found at:

http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/12_02/022312_outcomes.pdf

SAC West Coast Region Quarterly Report

The Quarterly Report can be found at: http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/about/pdfs/wcr_q2_2012.pdf

Update on Joint Executive SAC meeting from Richard Charter and Maria Brown

Richard Charter provided an update on what was discussed at a meeting of the executive officers from the Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay Sanctuary Advisory Councils.



Overflight Regulations Update (Karen Reyna/GFNMS)

Presentation available: http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/12_06/overflight_ppt.pdf

Including the San Francisco Exclusionary Area (Possible Council Action) (Leslie Abramson/GFNMS)

Presentation available at:

http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/12_06/exclusion_area_ppt.pdf

Motion:

Bob Wilson moved to consider expanding into the Exclusion Area and Northern Management Area at the same time. This motion is to explore the issue.

Kellyx: Second

In favor: 9

Deep Sea Corals Habitat Characterization Update (Jan Roletto & Karen Reyna/GFNMS)

Presentation available at: http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/12_06/dsc_ppt.pdf

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Superintendent's Report

MBNMS Offices Move

The Administrative Offices have moved their location from Foam Street to 99 Pacific Street.

Ecosystem Based Management Initiative

MBNMS is ending their EBM Initiative because of budget reality and other factors. However, the site will be compiling an accomplishments report, finish natural resource assessment and work with NOAA Fisheries Science Center on an Integrated Ecosystem Assessment.

Miscellaneous Items of Interest

The Sanctuary Exploration Center will open July 23. All are invited.

The Blue Ocean Film Festival will be held in September 2012 in Monterey

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

LUNCH

Joint Working Group on Vessel Strikes and Acoustic Impacts Final Recommendations (Possible Council Action) (Lance Morgan/CBNMS)

PPT available at: http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/12_06/jwg_strikes_ppt.pdf



The report from the Joint Working Group is available at:
http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/12_06/jwg_strikes.pdf

Jaime Jahncke and Mick Menigoz made suggested amendments.

Motion:

George Clyde moved on behalf of Cordell Bank to adopt these recommendations with technical corrections and amendments.

Second: Lance Morgan seconds for Cordell.

Vote: Motion agreed unanimously by Cordell SAC

Motion:

Bob Wilson moved on behalf of Gulf of the Farallones to adopt these recommendations with technical corrections and amendments.

Second: Richard Kuehn

Vote: Motion agreed unanimously by Gulf of the Farallones SAC

BREAK

Dan Howard honored Jaime Jahnke as Cordell Bank Volunteer of the Year

Vessel Spills Joint Working Group Final Recommendations (Possible Council Action) (Pat Rutten/GFNMS AC; Irina Kogan/GFNMS)

The presentation is available at:

http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/12_06/jwg_spills_ppt.pdf

The Joint Working Group report is available at:

http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/12_06/jwg_spills.pdf

Both councils discussed several of the recommendations, including issues of public health and safety, aerial spraying of dispersants, certain species of concern to commercial fisheries, oil toxicity and performing a Net Environmental Benefits Assessment (NEBA) for the sanctuary.

Discussion of the report ended and the council considered an addendum proposed by Richard Charter: “Resolution in Support of Preparing an Addendum to the Vessel Spills Working Group Report”. The issue is about the human health of the responders and the public to the spill and the addendum will follow the JWG report. This addendum was discussed and then withdrawn by Richard Charter.

Richard Charter introduced a second consideration: “Oil Spill Response Research and Development Resolution”. The resolution was discussed by the councils, and then withdrawn.

Motion:

Kellyx Nelson moves on behalf of the Gulf of the Farallones SAC to approve the report and recommendations as amended.



Second: Barbara Emley

Vote: None opposed. Richard Charter abstains. Motion passes.

Motion:

Jaime Jahncke moves on behalf of the Cordell Bank SAC to approve the report and recommendations as amended.

Second: Lance Morgan

Vote: None opposed. Todd Steiner abstains. Motion passed.

Adjourn at 5:00pm

NAME	SEAT	P/A
Dominique Richard	Public-At-Large Marin/Sonoma	P
Richard Kuehn	Public-At-Large Marin/Sonoma-Alt	P
Kellyx Nelson	Public At-Large SF/San Mateo	P
Tim Duff	Public At-Large SF/San Mateo Alternate	A
Catherine Kuhlman	CA Ocean Protection Council	A
Vacant	CA OPC Alternate	
Richard Charter [Council Chair]	Conservation	P
Bruce Bowser	Conservation Alternate	P
Bob Wilson [Council Secretary]	Conservation	P
Jackie Dragon	Conservation Alternate	A
Bob Breen	Education	A
<i>Vacant</i>	Education Alternate	
Barbara Emley [Council Vice-Chair]	Maritime Activities/ Commercial	P
Peter Grenell	Maritime Activities/Commercial Alternate	P
Mick Menigoz	Maritime Activities/Recreational	P
George Clyde	Maritime Activities/Recreational Alternate	P
John Largier	Research	A
Jaime Jahncke	Research Alternate	P
Cicely Muldoon	National Park Service	P
Frank Dean	National Park Service Alternate	A
<i>Vacant</i>	USFWS	
Gerry McChesney	USFWS Alternate	A
LT Bradley Soule	USCG	A



Gulf of the Farallones
National Marine Sanctuary
Key Meeting Outcomes

<i>Vacant</i>	USCG Alternate	
Pat Rutten	NMFS [non-voting]	P
Natalie-Constantino Manning	NMFS Alternate [non-voting]	A
Maria Brown	GFNMS [non-voting]	P
Chris Mobley	CINMS [non-voting]	A
Mike Murray	CINMS Alternate [non-voting]	A
Dan Howard	CBNMS [non-voting]	P
Kaitlin Graiff	CBNMS Alternate [non-voting]	P
Paul Michel	MBNMS [non-voting]	P
Karen Grimmer	MBNMS Alternate [non-voting]	A