

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

May 15, 2015

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Learns about U.S. Navy Fiber Optic Cable Project

At the May 15 meeting, council member John Ugoretz from the U.S. Navy presented to the advisory council on the Navy's Fiber Optic Cable Undersea System Replacement (FOCUS II) project. The proposed action is to install approximately 310 km of underwater fiber optic cable to connect Point Mugu, San Nicolas Island, and Santa Cruz Island. The new cable will pass through both Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and Channel Islands National Park. John gave an overview of the consultations that the Navy is required to conduct with government agencies and institutions before the project can move forward. John also presented a preliminary project timeline, with cable installation expected to begin in 2018.

Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

No significant advisory council actions taken this quarter.

Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

May 20, 2015

GFNMS Advisory Council Reinvigorates Vessel Strikes/Whales Joint Working Group

At the May 20th meeting, the GFNMS advisory council received an update from GFNMS staff regarding the status of ship strikes on whales within the Sanctuary. While reduced vessel speeds and collaboration with the shipping industry proves effective, the advisory council would like to see further action by the Sanctuary and drafted a position statement to reinvigorate the former joint working group (JWG) that was formed in June 2012. The JWG included participants from both the GFNMS advisory council and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary's Advisory Council. The GFNMS advisory council chose to reconvene this JWG in response to an update provided by GFNMS staff at the May 20th meeting ([found here](#)); the newly-reconvened JWG will address issues related to implementation of the recommendations of the previous JWG.

GFNMS Advisory Council Establishes Seabird Disturbance/Low Overflight Working Group

The GFNMS advisory council formed an Overflight Working Group at the May 20th, 2015 meeting to review and propose strategies to mitigate the issues of seabird disturbance caused by low-flying aircraft in GFNMS and the Northern Management Area of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. This working group was formed in response to the findings of the GFNMS Resource Protection team and their subsequent presentation to the GFNMS advisory council in May ([found here](#)). The working group will discuss its findings in November 2015.

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

No significant advisory council actions taken this quarter.

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

May 15, 2015

Advisory Council Establishes Climate Change Working Group

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) Advisory Council (advisory council) formed a Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) in April 2015 to review, and revise as necessary, OCNMS's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP). The CCWG members held their first three meetings between April 24 and June 25, 2015. Working group members began reviewing the four identified strategies of OCNMS CCAP (found online at http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/actionplan_climate_change_final.pdf) and its desired outcomes. Meeting discussions have centered around OCNMS as a Sentinel Site for both sea level rise and ocean acidification, and Strategy 3 of the CCAP, "Resilient Ecosystems," which could include working with natural resource managers and local communities on the Olympic Peninsula to improve the resiliency of ecosystem and climate change impacts. At the May 15 advisory council meeting in Neah Bay, WA, the council voted to adopt the draft charter for CCWG, which can be found online at: http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/charter_climatechange_draft.pdf. The CCWG will meet again throughout the summer.
