

SAC Member Review of Scoping Document and Priority Issue Templates

- 1. Familiarize yourself with the entire Summary Scoping Document**
 - a. Introduction
 - b. Analysis of Issues Tables (focus on these tables for setting priorities)
 - c. Background Information on Issues
 - d. Appendices (particularly the summary of scoping meeting and written comments)

- 2. Review the Individual SAC Member Priority Issue Templates**
 - a. Cross-cutting issues
 - b. Sanctuary-specific issues
 - c. Sample template (already filled-out)

- 3. Review the “Joint SAC Workshop Criteria to be Applied for Issue Prioritization”**
 - a. These criteria are intended to help you think about how to prioritize the sub-issues

- 4. Prioritize Cross-Cutting Issues**
 - a. Choose 4 sub-issues listed in Table 2 (Analysis of Cross-Cutting Issues) that are the highest priority to you and your constituency.
 - b. Be consistent with the wording and numbering in the table when selecting a sub-issue
 - c. Record each of the 4 issues on the Individual SAC Member Cross-Cutting Issue Template

- 5. Prioritize Site-Specific Issues**
 - a. Choose 4 sub-issues listed in Tables (3-5) (Analysis of Site-Specific Issues, select the applicable site, i.e., Monterey Bay if you are MBNMS SAC member) that are the highest priority to you and your constituency.
 - b. Be consistent with the wording and numbering in the table when selecting a sub-issue
 - c. Record each of the 4 issues on the Individual SAC Member Site-Specific Issue Template

- 6. Return Priority Templates to JMPR Coordinators by March 22**

- 7. Synthesis of Template Information**
 - a. NMSP staff will collect templates and compile SAC priorities into a matrix for cross-cutting issues and one matrix for each of the sanctuary issues
 - b. Matrices will be used for Joint SAC Prioritization Workshop

- 8. Joint SAC Prioritization Workshop - April**
 - a. NMSP staff present matrices of SAC priorities
 - b. Conduct prioritization exercise for cross-cutting issues
 - c. Conduct prioritization exercise for site-specific issues

April 2002 Joint SAC Workshop Criteria to be Applied for Issue Prioritization

Threshold Question - *to be answered prior to SAC Joint Workshop by NMSP Staff*

Does the NMSP have the institutional responsibility and/or authority to address this issue?

Responses: **YES – meets threshold, continue criteria application and ranking.**
 NO – does not meet primary threshold, discontinue ranking.

Criterion #1 – Site Benefits

Responses: **Major – “A”**
 Moderate – “B”
 Minor – “C”

Does addressing this issue have positive site benefits to natural resources/ecosystem, cultural resources, habitat protection, protection of biodiversity, or resolving user conflicts? If we make progress on this issue will it have major, moderate, or minimal site benefits? *For more insight on this criterion, please refer to the purposes and policies language excerpt from the National Marine Sanctuaries Act located at the end of this document.*

Criterion #2 – Urgency

Responses: **Develop Strategies – “A”**
 Develop a Framework – “B”
 Defer Action – “C”

What makes an issue “Urgent”? If the issue/problem is: adversely impacting resources, persistent, getting worse with time/deteriorating, increasing in frequency, wide spatial extent, non-reversible. What is the level of response/urgency needed for this issue: develop strategies to be implemented immediately, develop a framework for action in the management plan, defer any action until after the management plan has been completed.

Criterion #3 – Feasibility

Responses: **Existing Resources Available – “A”**
 Additional Resources Needed – “B”
 Major Resources Needed – “C”

What makes it feasible to address an issue? Having the necessary: people resources/skills, money/funding, infrastructure, and technical capability. What is the ability of the program to address this issue: existing resources are currently available, additional resources are needed, major resources are needed.

Purposes and Policies of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act:

- 1) to identify and designate as national marine sanctuaries areas of the marine environment which are of special national significance and to manage these areas as the National Marine Sanctuary System;*
- 2) to provide authority for comprehensive and coordinated conservation and management of these marine areas, and activities affecting them, in a manner which complements existing regulatory authorities;*
- 3) to maintain the natural biological communities in the national marine sanctuaries, and to protect, and, where appropriate, restore and enhance natural habitats, populations, and ecological processes;*
- 4) to enhance public awareness, understanding, appreciation and wise and sustainable use of the marine environment, and the natural, historical, cultural, and archeological resources of the National Marine Sanctuary System;*
- 5) to support, promote, and coordinate scientific research on, and long-term monitoring of, the resources of these marine areas*
- 6) to facilitate to the extent compatible with the primary objective of resource protection, all public and private uses of the resources of these marine areas not prohibited pursuant to other authorities;*
- 7) to develop and implement coordinated plans for the protection and management of these areas with appropriate Federal agencies, State and local governments, Native American tribes and organizations, international organizations, and other public and private interests concerned with the continuing health and resilience of these marine areas;*
- 8) to create models of, and incentives for, ways to conserve and manage these areas, including the application of innovative management techniques; and*
- 9) to cooperate with global programs encouraging conservation of marine resources.*

- SAMPLE TEMPLATE & INSTRUCTIONS -

**Individual Sanctuary Advisory Council Member's
Priority Issue Template – Cross-Cutting Issues**

NAME: Ralph J. Schnayweiss **SEAT REPRESENTED:** Citizen-at-large

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

Cordell Bank NMS Gulf of the Farallones NMS Monterey Bay NMS

**Please refer to the Scoping Summary Document, Table 2 and the sub-issues listed under each Issue Area when listing your concern. We ask that you be consistent with the terminology in the Document to assist staff as they organize this information.*

Cross- Cutting Issue Area: 26.0 Spill Response and Contingency Planning

Priority Concern #1 : 26.2 Develop an oil spill response and contingency plan

Please provide a concise statement of why this issue is of importance to you and your constituency. When drafting your statement, define clearly what the source or the underlying problem of the concern is (see the sample template for an example).

It is important to have an oil spill response and contingency plan in place so if an accident does occur the Sanctuaries and other State and Federal agencies will have a coordinated plan to prevent further impacts to marine wildlife. If a plan is not in place, time that could be used for clean up and prevention of dispersal could be wasted on deciding how to address the spill.

Instructions on how to fill out the templates

Each SAC member will be asked to fill out two template sheets:

1. Cross-Cutting Priority Issues Template
2. Sanctuary-Specific Priority Issues Template

After reviewing the Tables in the Summary Scoping Document, you will choose 4 sub-issues identified in the table that you believe represent your constituency's highest priorities for the Management Plan Review process. You will fill out the Cross-Cutting Priority Issues Template using Table 2, *Analysis of Cross-Cutting Issues*. You will fill out the Sanctuary-Specific Priority Issues Template using the appropriate Sanctuary-specific table (i.e, if you are from the Monterey Bay NMS SAC you would use the *Analysis of Monterey Bay NMS Issues* table).

Attached you will find a list of criteria and the "Purposes & Policies" of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act that you may want to use when selecting your top 4 priorities for the templates.

After filling out your two templates, please return them to your Sanctuary's Joint Management Plan Review Coordinator by March 22nd.