National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Marine Sanctuaries

Olympic Coast

OCNMS Management Plan 2019 Priorities

By: OCNMS Staff

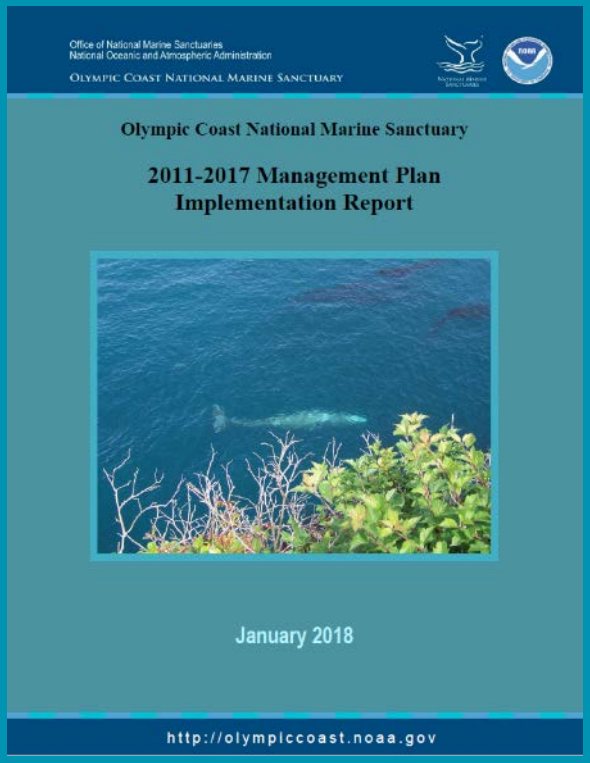
November 18, 2018 AC meeting

Agenda

- Review of internal management plan review process and results
- Review of AC and staff prioritization
- Preliminary planned activities for FY19 (Oct 1, 2018 to Sept 30, 2019)
- Discussion

Administrative Internal Review

- ONMS guidance – evaluate whether the 2011 management plan still meets OCNMS's needs
- In-house workshop to review MP
- Completed in 2017
- AC briefings in Dec 2017 and Feb 2018
- AC prioritization Mar 2018



Overall Results

14 Strategies were ranked in the top 20 by both AC and staff.

- Coastal Treaty Tribes (CCM2)
- NOAA Fisheries (CCM8)
- OCNMS Advisory Council (COM1)
- Vessel Infrastructure and Operations (OPS1)
- Staffing (OPS3)
- Facilities (OPS2)
- Regional Coordination (MAP1)
- Coastal Mooring Program (OCEO1)
- Ocean Acidification (OCEO3)
- Condition Report (DATA4)
- Seafloor Habitat Mapping (MAP2)
- K-12 Partnerships (ED1)
- ATBA Management, Compliance and Monitoring (SPILL1)
- Sanctuary as Sentinel Site (CLIM2)

Seven Focus Areas

1. Changing Ocean Conditions
2. Maintaining Operations and Infrastructure
3. Nurturing Partnerships
4. Characterizing Seafloor Habitat
5. Maintaining Community Presence and Outreach
6. Protecting Resources in the Sanctuary
7. Assessing Condition of Sanctuary

Changing Ocean Conditions

Related Management Plan Strategies

- **Ocean Acidification** (OCEO3)
- **Coastal Mooring Program** (OCEO1)
- Hypoxia (OCEO2)*
- **Sanctuary as Sentinel Site** (CLIM2)
- Harmful algal blooms (OCEO4)*
- Communicating Climate Change (CLIM4)*

Changing Ocean Conditions

Upcoming Activities

- Establish OA Sentinel Site committee
- Continue and enhance Coastal Mooring Program
- Support outside researchers to study this topic in the sanctuary
- Publish data from previous monitoring efforts

Changing Ocean Conditions

Upcoming Activities

- Finalize new OASeS video
- Continue to pilot OA pHyter and Plankton Monitoring with students
- New Olympic Coast Discovery Center exhibit
- Disseminate WCR Dungeness Crab OA toolkit
- Pursue new partnership with Peninsula College STEM Club speaker series

Operations and Infrastructure

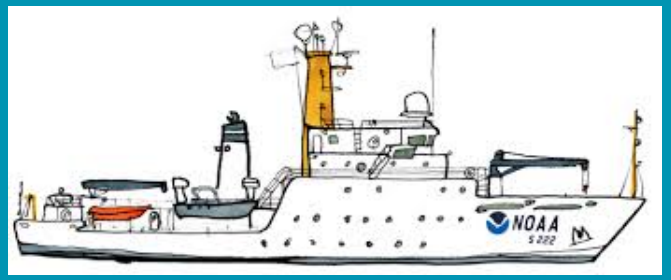
Related Management Plan Strategies

- **Vessel Infrastructure and Operations** (OPS1)
- **Facilities** (OPS2)
- **Staffing** (OPS5)

Operations and Infrastructure

Upcoming Activities

- Pursue acquisition of new vessel
- Pursue HR actions to replace the vacant Resource Protection Specialist position
- As funding allows, continue to contract support services to support programs
- Marine Discovery Center partnership



Nurturing Partnerships

Related Management Plan Strategies

- **Coastal Treaty Tribes (CCM2)**
- Intergovernmental Policy Council (CCM3)*
- US Coast Guard (CCM 5)*
- US Navy (CCM7)*
- **NOAA Fisheries (CCM8)**
- **Advisory Council (COM1)**

Hoh Indian Tribe | Makah Tribe | Quileute Tribe | Quinault Indian Nation | State of Washington

Nurturing Partnerships

Upcoming Activities

- Advisory Council support
- IPC annual meeting
- Partner with NMFS for ATBA, deep sea coral, protected resources management, etc.
- Maritime risk reduction
- Review of NWTT activities

Community Presence & Outreach

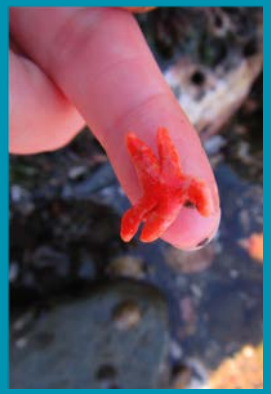
Related Management Plan Strategies

- **K-12 Partnerships** (ED1)
- Place-Based Education (ED2)*
- Visitor Experience (VISIT1)*
- Long Range Interpretive Plan (VISIT2)*
- Community-Based Efforts (OUT4)*
- Stewardship and Citizen Science (OUT1)*
- Community Events (OUT3)*
- **OCNMS Advisory Council** (COM1)

Community Presence & Outreach

Upcoming Activities

- Manage B-WET and Ocean Guardian programs
- Conduct sanctuary-based and STEM focused programs
- Mentor AmeriCorps members and NOAA interns
- Pursue funding opportunities to support voluntourism
- Continue supporting Washington CoastSavers Program and annual beach cleanups



Community Presence & Outreach

Upcoming Activities (cont'd)

- Promote Virtual Dives in Olympic Coast Discovery Center

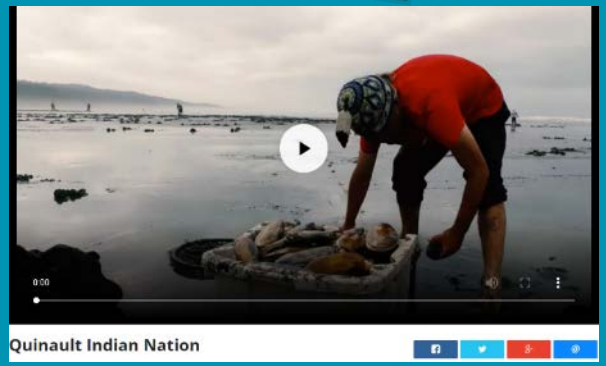
- Support outreach activities with partners, including NOAA kiosks, The Whale Trail, and coastal interpretive programs
- Celebrate 25th Anniversary!!!

- Promote Get In Your Sanctuary events (ONMS initiative)
- Participate in festivals and special events

Community Presence & Outreach

Upcoming Activities (cont'd)

- Continue to support Community based efforts in areas of marine research, education and policy (MRCs, etc.)
- Contribute to ONMS-driven Stories of the Blue series
- Create new site brochure and updated website
- Stay active on social media
- Continue supporting SAC meetings



Characterizing Seafloor Habitat

Related Management Plan Strategies

- **Regional Coordination** (MAP1)
- **Seafloor habitat mapping** (MAP2)
- Data Distribution (DATA2)*
- Data Quality Control and Management (DATA1)*
- Mapping Products (MAP4)*
- Habitat Classification (MAP3)*
- Adaptive Management (DATA3)*

Characterizing Seafloor Habitat

Upcoming Activities

- Dissemination of 2016 and 2017 seafloor data from the R/V *Rainier* and E/V *Nautilus* cruises.
- Complete report from March 2018 Habitat Mapping Spatial Prioritization Workshop with Washington State and disseminate to partners.
- Contribute to multi-agency west coast spatial prioritization effort
- Participate in multi-agency EXPRESS initiative and other collaborative efforts to fill critical data gaps for seafloor habitat mapping in OCNMS

Protecting Resources in Sanctuary

Related Management Plan Strategies

- Permitting and Consultation (OPS7)*
- Enforcement (OPS9)*
- **ATBA Monitoring** (SPILL1)
- OCNMS Organizational Response Plan (SPILL5)*
- Marine Mammal Disturbance (WD3)*
- Vessel Incident Response and Prevention (n/a)*

Protecting Resources in Sanctuary

Upcoming Activities

- Respond to emergency events
- Permitting and consultations are ongoing
- Work with enforcement partners on ongoing cases
- Monitor ATBA compliance, outreach to vessels
- Evaluate the use dispersants for oil spills
- Address open deck barges transporting unsecured scrap metal loads (e.g., crushed cars) in the sanctuary
- Evaluate risk of ship strikes and entanglements
- Explore signage and workshops on boat safety

Assessing Condition of Sanctuary

Related Management Plan Strategies

- **Condition Report** (DATA4)
- Water Column Communities (ECO1)*
- Intertidal (ECO2)*
- Subtidal (ECO3)*
- Benthic (ECO4)*
- Fish (ECO5)*
- Marine Birds (ECO6)*
- Marine Mammals (ECO7)*
- Ecosystem Processes (ECO9)*
- Sanctuary as a Sentinel Site (CLIM2)*
- Marine Mammal Disturbance (WD3)*
- Threat Assessment and Mitigation (HP1)*
- Habitats of Special Importance (HP2) *

Assessing Condition of Sanctuary

Upcoming Activities

- Near-term effort to support tribal engagement and expert participation in condition report process
- Ecosystem indicator selection 1-day workshop planned for spring 2019
- Analytical support from NCCOS and IEA program
- Collaborating with State of WA colleagues on indicator selection
- 3-day expert workshop planned for fall 2019

Assessing Condition of Sanctuary

Upcoming Activities (cont'd)

- Increase acoustic monitoring to characterize acoustic 'soundscape' of the sanctuary and document natural and human sound inputs

Summary

The overarching focus areas that emerged were well aligned with current efforts

Top activities in next 1-2 years are expected to be:

- OCNMS as a Sentinel Site
- Initiating the Condition Report
- Working with partners on a new Discovery Center in PA
- Acquiring a new vessel

Crosscut with FY19 Advisory Council work plan

THANK YOU!