



# Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Sanctuary Superintendent's Report

Volume 6, Number 5



A report for the Sanctuary Advisory Council and Sanctuary Constituents

November 2008

## ABOUT THE SANCTUARY

Designated in 1980, the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS or sanctuary) consists of an area off the coast of California of over 1,100 square nautical miles adjacent to the following islands and offshore rocks: San Miguel Island, Santa Cruz Island, Santa Rosa Island, Anacapa Island, Santa Barbara Island, Richardson Rock, and Castle Rock, extending seaward to a distance of six nautical miles. The islands vary in distance from 12 to 40 nautical miles offshore from Santa Barbara and Ventura counties in southern California.

A fertile combination of warm and cool currents in this area results in a great variety of plants and animals including kelp forests, fish and invertebrates, pinnipeds, cetaceans and sea birds. The sanctuary also has a wealth of maritime heritage resources including Chumash Native American artifacts and over 100 historic shipwrecks. Human uses in the area include commercial and recreational fishing, marine wildlife viewing, boating, diving, kayaking, maritime shipping, nearby offshore oil and gas development, research and monitoring, and numerous educational activities.

## MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has moved closer to finalizing the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS or sanctuary) management plan. Staff from NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) headquarters and NOAA's Office of General Counsel are completing clearance of the Final Management Plan (FMP), Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), and Final Rule documents. Staff will be notifying the public when the FMP and FEIS are available for public access, which will occur at least 30 days prior to the publishing of the Final Rule. Information about the management plan revision process, including several downloadable documents, is available on the "Management Plan" section of the sanctuary's web site at:

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov>.

## Window on the Sanctuary

Once common off Southern California and its offshore islands, the grand size, mild taste and gentle nature of the Giant Sea Bass, *Stereolepis gigas*, led to their being hunted to near extinction. They can reach eight feet long, weigh up to 560 pounds, and are thought to live for almost 100 years. Protected in California since 1982, Giant Sea Bass appear to be making a slow comeback. Photo: Douglas Klug.



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## RESOURCE PROTECTION

### Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

A new MPA Publication, "Establishing Resilient MPA Networks - Making It Happen," was launched at the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress in Spain, held October 5-14. The publication is available at [www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org) and [www.tnc.org](http://www.tnc.org). Sean Hastings (Sanctuary Resource Protection Coordinator) provided support for the publication's case study review, and contributed to the final publication.

### Large Cetacean Ship Strikes Update

Version two of the *Prevention and Emergency Response Plan to Reduce Ship Strikes on Blue Whales and Other Large Cetaceans in CINMS and the Santa Barbara Channel* was recently released to the Sanctuary Advisory Council (Advisory Council) ship strike subcommittee.

## SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

### Advisory Council Endorses Ocean Acidification Report & Makes Recommendations to Sanctuary

On September 19, the Advisory Council unanimously adopted a report from the Conservation Working Group, entitled, "*Ocean Acidification and the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary: Cause, effect, and response.*" The 42-page report, which was developed through more than a year of literature research and consultation with experts, provides a thorough explanation of ocean acidification. The report also includes a series of recommendations on steps NOAA can take at CINMS to focus research, monitoring and education on ocean acidification, and to exhibit overall leadership on this important issue. The Advisory Council has benefited from educational presentations from ocean acidification experts. At the September meeting, the Advisory Council heard from Dr. Richard Feely of the NOAA Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, and from Dr. Gretchen Hofmann, a professor at the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology Department. Their presentations focused on research and possible effects of ocean

acidification. At a previous Advisory Council meeting, Dr. Victoria Fabry, a professor at California State University at San Marcos, presented her work on ocean acidification. The Advisory Council's ocean acidification report is available on line at: <http://www.channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/announcement.html>.

### Sanctuary and Park Honor Advisory Council Chair Dianne Black

On September 16, the sanctuary and park presented Dianne Black (Sanctuary Advisory Council Chair) with a Leadership Award at an annual Volunteer Recognition Event for over 220 volunteers. Black was recognized for her ten years of service with the Advisory Council, during most of which she has served as either Chair or Vice Chair.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

### Lobster Boat Wrecks in the Sanctuary

On October 4, less than a week into the commercial lobster season, a lobster boat out of Long Beach, California ran hard aground on a narrow, rocky ledge on the northwest side of Santa Barbara Island. The captain and deck hand made it to shore safely and the crew of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Narwhal* later picked them up. Sanctuary staff coordinated the response with the U.S. Coast Guard and Channel Islands National Park (CINP or park). The captain claimed there were 75 gallons of diesel on board and that the vessel was not insured. The captain contracted a salvage company and recovered the fuel and retrievable parts of the broken-up vessel.

## RESEARCH & MONITORING

### Research and Monitoring Activities

*U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Seafloor Mapping*  
From September 29-October 8, USGS researchers were onboard the sanctuary's research vessel (R/V) *Shearwater* contributing to the California State Waters Mapping Project, which aims to create a comprehensive coastal/marine geologic and habitat base map series for all state waters in support of the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative. The researchers collected sea

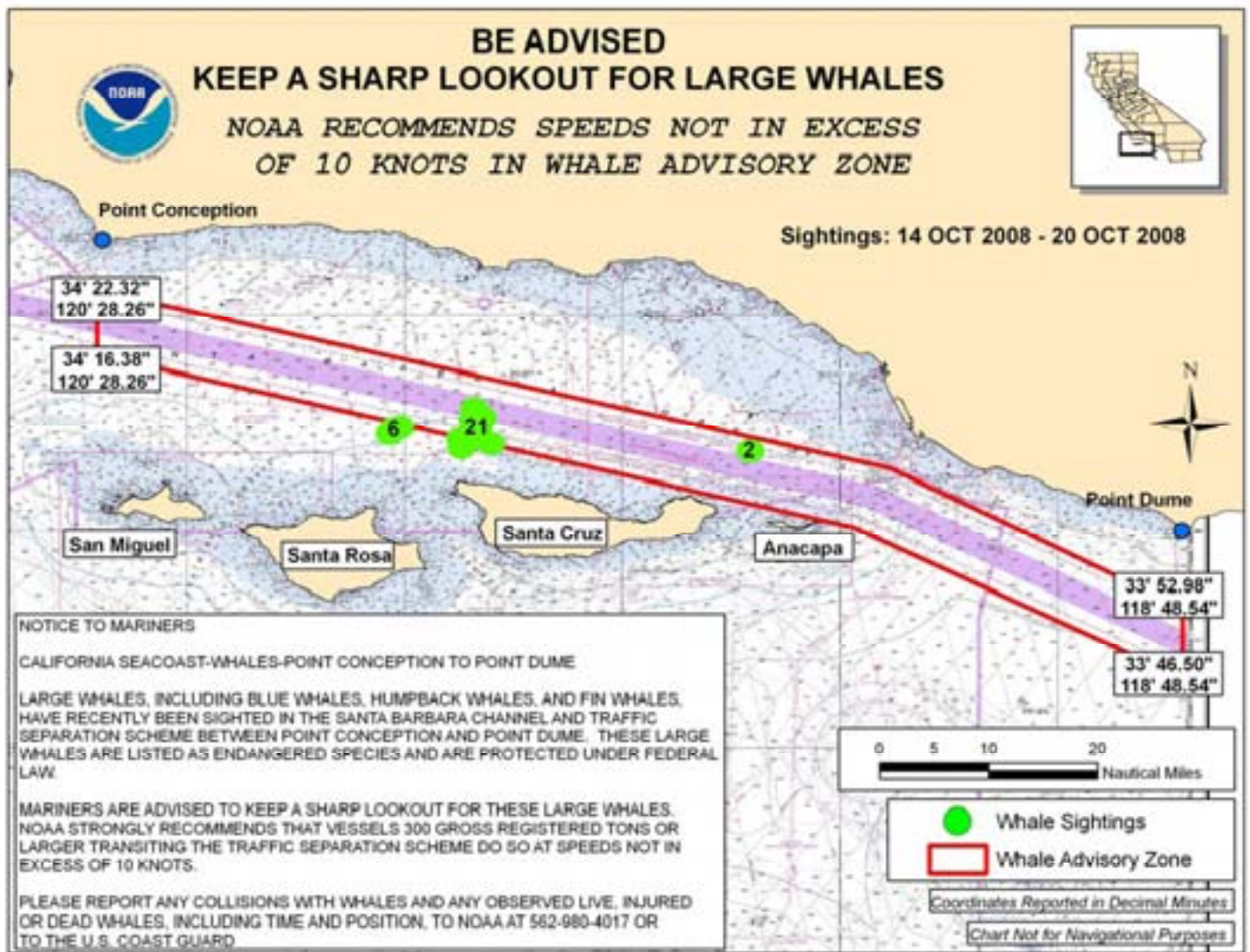
floor video and photographs using a USGS camera sled towed behind the vessel. Information from this cruise will help ground-truth or validate sea floor habitat and geologic maps that will be created for the Santa Barbara Channel area. These maps will be used for a variety of purposes including, designating and monitoring marine protected areas, and mapping offshore resources and hazards.

*Sanctuary and Partners Continue Monitoring Whales in the Channel Islands Region*

Sanctuary staff continue to work with agency partners to monitor whales in the Santa Barbara Channel. The sanctuary has been conducting approximately weekly aerial surveys of the Santa Barbara Channel shipping lanes with aerial support from the California Department

of Fish and Game and the U.S. Coast Guard. In addition, the sanctuary has been coordinating aerial surveys with Cascadia Research, which conducts blue whale tagging to examine blue whale distributions and behavior in and around the shipping lanes.

The aerial surveys indicate that few whales have been located in the shipping lanes, relative to similar aerial surveys conducted between September and November of 2007. However, daily sightings recorded by Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers working aboard a local whale watch vessel, as well as sightings by Cascadia Research indicate that concentrations of blue whales and humpback whales can be found in sanctuary waters just outside of the shipping lanes. The reports indicate that sightings have been variable from week to



Map of recent whale sightings in the Santa Barbara Channel.

week, but that several large whale species are continuing to feed in sanctuary waters. The sanctuary is providing sightings maps (such as the example above) to the shipping industry through the Marine Exchange of Southern California on a weekly basis. In addition, the U.S. Coast Guard continues to broadcast a NOAA recommended speed reduction of ten knots for ships greater than 300 gross tons while in the Santa Barbara Channel. Future aerial surveys of the shipping lanes are planned through the remainder of the blue whale season.

#### *Ecosystem-Based Impacts of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)*

From September 15-19, CINMS staff and the R/V *Shearwater* supported dive operations in the sanctuary for an experiment to learn about the predator-prey dynamics inside and outside MPAs. During this expedition researchers expanded the experiment to the Sanctuary's western end (western Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa and San Miguel islands). Outside of MPAs fishing preferentially removes from the ecosystem predators (large fish and lobsters) that serve as biological control of prey animals, which graze on kelp forests. This experiment is designed to evaluate if MPAs protect predators, and if this has a cascading effect of improving kelp forest productivity. The week's studies were an extension of previous work examining the impact of harvest on multiple links in the food chain. This work is supported by CINMS and by an award to Dr. Anne Salomon (of Simon Fraser University) from the David H. Smith Fellowship in Conservation, along with a New Zealand Science and Technology Postdoctoral Fellowship awarded to Dr. Nick Shears by the New Zealand Foundation for Research, Science and Technology.

#### *Southern California Bight 2008 Regional Monitoring*

From September 8-12, the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) completed a research cruise aboard the R/V *Shearwater* as part of the "Bight '08" project. This project is a cooperative regional monitoring effort conducted every five years to assess coastal conditions. The researchers collected a series of sediment samples in the Santa Barbara Channel, and were assisted by sanctuary intern Steve Choy. To obtain the sediment samples, researchers use a large claw, or "grab," deployed from the stern of the vessel to depths ranging from 20 to 200 meters. Researchers selected sites randomly, and took two to three grabs per site. During the cruise, SCCWRP

conducted 33 grabs over five days. After retrieving the grab, they collected samples of fauna from the sediment and preserved the sediment samples for chemical analyses. They collected fauna at six sites in order to compare the genetic makeup of mainland and island species. Sampling for all Bight '08 projects is now complete and analyses are beginning. Laboratory results of sediment grab analyses taken in the summer of 2008 may take up to a year to process.

#### *Lost and Found: Missing Blue Whale Tag*

On September 9, thanks to transportation provided by the park, a Scripps Institution of Oceanography intern and sanctuary staff headed out to Chinese Harbor along the northern coast of Santa Cruz Island to search for a missing blue whale tag. The tag, deployed by the non-profit research organization Cascadia Research, was lost in mid-August and contained very valuable data on behavior of blue whales while in proximity to shipping lanes and cargo ships. Based on the last sighting of the tagged whale, and currents in the region, researchers believed that the tag may have ended up at Chinese Harbor. The team searched the Chinese Harbor beach, but did not find the tag. However, they observed and documented a variety of trash along the beach, including pieces of vessels, plastic bottles, shoes, and many balloons. Researchers alerted the local community about the missing tag and a reward for its return, and requested that they keep a lookout for it. The tag was subsequently found washed up on rocks, but intact, on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, and was returned to Cascadia Research.



Many balloons were found along the stretch of Chinese Harbor's beach during the search for the blue whale tag. Photo: NOAA.

## Citizen Science

### *Blue and Humpback Whale Photo-ID*

Channel Islands Naturalist Corps (CINC) volunteers continue to collect blue and humpback whale photo-ID data on board the *Condor Express* and Island Packers vessels. The data and images support Cascadia Research Collective's long-term population and abundance studies of blue and humpback whales in the Santa Barbara Channel. John Calambokidis (Cascadia Research Collective founder) and Josh Kaye-Carr (CINC's lead volunteer supporting the ID program) train CINC volunteers to conduct whale photo-ID.

### *State of California Harmful Algal Bloom Study*

CINC volunteers continue to conduct plankton tows on board the R/V *Shearwater* as part of a statewide study on harmful algal blooms. The tows are conducted in cooperation with Plumes and Blooms research cruises scheduled throughout the year. The California Department of Public Health's Marine Biotxin Monitoring Program monthly reports can be found on the following web page for viewing or downloading:

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/environhealth/water/Pages/Shellfish.aspx>

### *Marine Mammal Sightings Reports*

CINC volunteers continue to enter marine mammal sightings data from the Santa Barbara Channel into the Marine Mammal Sightings Database:

<http://www.cisanctuary.org/mammals/>. Over 9,000 reports have been entered over the past six years, representing over 18 species of marine mammals and thousands of individual animals. This data will also be integrated into the Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN), which helps researchers to monitor the sanctuary effectively by integrating the existing monitoring programs and identifying gaps in information. SIMoN serves to make the monitoring data available to managers, decision makers, the research community, and the general public. In addition, data collected by CINC volunteers will be used to track blue whale sightings as part of the *Prevention and Emergency Response Plan to Reduce Ship Strikes on Blue Whales and Other Large Cetaceans in the Santa Barbara Channel*.

### *Anacapa Island Larval Settlement Study*

Several CINC volunteers continue to assist with a benthic larval settlement study in conjunction with the

park and UCSB. They collect samples two times per month at Anacapa Island with transportation on board the National Park Service vessel *Sea Ranger*.

For more information on the CINC please see p. 9.

## EDUCATION, VOLUNTEER, & OUTREACH

### Special Events

*The Big Swim Raises \$25,000 for the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and CINMS Education Programs*  
From September 12-13, the nonprofit Santa Barbara Channel Swimming Association (SBCSA) held "The Big Swim" - the fifth annual Santa Barbara Channel Relay Swim - raising nearly \$25,000 for the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and Heal the Ocean (a non-profit organization in Santa Barbara). The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation will apply its portion of the proceeds to CINMS education programs with a particular focus on providing ocean experiences to underserved students. Das Williams (Santa Barbara City Council member), awarded the SBCSA a commending proclamation for this successful community event, which brought together more than 40 brave swimmers and several kayakers. The group swam and paddled in shifts across the 26-mile wide Santa Barbara Channel, commencing at 12 midnight at Santa Cruz Island and arriving at 4:00 pm in Goleta Beach Park. Amongst the swimmers were Claire Fackler (ONMS West Coast Education Liaison), Bill Douros (ONMS West Coast Region Director), Julie Bursek (Sanctuary Education Coordinator), and Matt Pickett (former Sanctuary Manager). Claire Fackler also assisted with event planning, organization and execution.

The SBCSA promotes activities to benefit the ocean, and since 2004 has sponsored an annual relay swim across the Santa Barbara Channel to raise funds for local ocean-caring organizations. For more information visit: <http://www.santabarbarachannelswim.org/>.

### *Local Swimming Group and The Big Swim Sponsor Sixth Graders' Trip to the Channel Islands*

The SBCSA and Big Swim 2008 Working Group raised funds to provide under served students an opportunity to explore the sanctuary and park on September 12, aboard the Truth Aquatics' vessel *Conception* and in association with The Big Swim. In collaboration with the CINMS



Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans (MERITO) Program, students were selected to participate in this hands-on field experience to inspire ocean literacy and instill a conservation ethic.

#### *2008 From Shore To Sea Lecture Series*

The monthly “*From Shore to Sea*” public lectures for September featured Alan Salazar and were entitled, “Return to Limuw, A Chumash Tomol Crosses the Channel.” Salazar is a Chumash storyteller, traditional Chumash paddler, a practitioner of Chumash spiritual ceremonies, and his village’s fast runner. During his talk he emphasized the importance of the Chumash tomol or plank canoe, as well as its history and the effect of the revival of Chumash maritime culture on the local community.

The October lectures featured Ian Taniguchi, of the California Department of Fish and Game, who spoke about *Red Abalone at San Miguel Island*. Taniguchi described the past abalone fishery, the reasons behind the current fishing moratorium, and the cooperative process now being used to develop options for a possible fishery at San Miguel Island, including conservation requirements and a range of potential management approaches. Taniguchi has studied and managed marine invertebrate fisheries for over 16 years, including those for sea urchin and abalone.

The sanctuary, park, and Santa Barbara Maritime Museum jointly sponsor the “From Shore to Sea” lecture series in an effort to further the understanding of science and history of the Channel Islands and surrounding waters. The programs are free and open to the public. The lectures take place at 7:00 p.m. on one Tuesday and Wednesday per month, with Tuesday lectures at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum’s Munger Theatre, and Wednesday lectures at the Channel Islands National Park Robert J. Lagomarsino Visitor Center. For upcoming lectures please refer to the sanctuary calendar on p. 15, or visit the sanctuary’s From Shore to Sea web page: [channelislands.noaa.gov/edu/shoretosea.html](http://channelislands.noaa.gov/edu/shoretosea.html). Watch the monthly From Shore to Sea Lectures on Public Access Television: channel 15 in Ventura (<http://www.capstv.org>), and channel 21 in Santa Barbara ([http://www.sbchannels.tv/khxc/index.php?app=ccp0&ns=display&ref=21\\_schedule](http://www.sbchannels.tv/khxc/index.php?app=ccp0&ns=display&ref=21_schedule)).

## **Education Products**

### *Interactive Kiosk*

The first “One NOAA” interactive kiosk in the form of two touchscreen units has been delivered to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach, California. These kiosks will be unveiled during the Aquarium’s NOAA and Our Planet Day on November 15.

## **Sanctuary Classes**

### *Sanctuary Pilots Montessori Marine Biology Class*

Laura Francis (Sanctuary Education Coordinator) and Maria Petueli (Sanctuary Advisory Council Education Representative), are collaborating to design and pilot a ten-week, afterschool, marine biology class for first through third grade students of Montessori Center School in Santa Barbara. The class runs from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to December 11<sup>th</sup>. Topics include kelp forests, whales and dolphins, rocky intertidal habitats, sea birds, and plankton, deep sea and ocean art and more.

### *Sanctuary and UCSB Educators Teach Undergraduate Course on Communicating Ocean Sciences*

Laura Francis and Scott Simon (UCSB Marine Science Institute, or MSI, Educator) are collaborating on teaching a Communicating Ocean Sciences course for UCSB marine science undergraduates. The course illuminates current best practices in science teaching through eleven sessions. The undergraduates are immersed in several weeks of hands-on ocean science activities designed to illustrate key elements of teaching kindergarten through twelfth grade. Then, pairs of students select an ocean science unit (and kit) that they will develop for a kindergarten through eighth grade classroom. The course started on September 29<sup>th</sup>, and runs through mid December.

## **Workshops and Trainings**

### *Multicultural Strategies for Environmental Educators B-WET Workshop*

On September 26, Julie Bursek and Laura Francis, along with several Santa Barbara and Ventura area Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program grant recipients, participated in a Multicultural Strategies for Environmental Educators workshop in Santa Barbara. Topics included a review of multiculturalism in the United States, demographics, the influence of

culture and values on the learning process, culture and environmentalism, strategies for working with English language learners, multicultural scientific discourse, customizing existing curricula, assessing audiences, and adjusting lesson plans for diverse audiences. Two experts in this field, Jenny de la Hoz (of the Monterey Bay Aquarium) and Sonya Padron (Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Bilingual Education and Outreach Specialist), led the workshop.

*Santa Barbara Home School Students Participate in Long Term Monitoring and Experiential Training for Students (LiMPETs) Sandy Beach Training*

On October 15, Laura Francis and Julie Bursek (Sanctuary Education Coordinator) conducted a LiMPETs sandy beach monitoring training at Arroyo Burro Beach in Santa Barbara. Participants in the training included two teachers and 25 seventh to twelfth grade students from the Home School Santa Barbara, a new public school that is part of the Santa Barbara School District. The school plans to conduct long-term monitoring at the Arroyo Burro Beach LiMPETs site, and will have students sample populations of sand crabs every six weeks as part of an elective course in Marine Ecology. For more information, please visit [www.limpetsmonitoring.org](http://www.limpetsmonitoring.org).



Julie Bursek shows students how to sample and monitor sand crab populations at Arroyo Burro Beach as part of LiMPETS monitoring. Photo: Laura Francis.

*Sanctuary Educators Lead International Communications and Tourism Management Capacity Building Workshop in Costa Rica*

From September 6-17, Laura Francis and Rocío Lozano



Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape Workshop Participants learn to use Global Positioning Systems (GPS) during a field trip to a Marine Protected Area in Costa Rica. Photo: Laura Francis.

(Sanctuary Bilingual Education and Outreach Specialist), coordinated and presented at *The Seascape Approach to Managing the Eastern Tropical Pacific Management Capacity Building* workshop in Las Baulas National Park in Costa Rica. Forty participants participated in the workshop, including managers, researchers, tourism representatives and educators from MPAs throughout the Eastern Tropical Pacific, including Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador and Colombia. The CINMS Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans (MERITO) program served as a model for developing education and communications projects during the workshop. Participants learned how to conduct needs assessments, develop logic models and create messages in order to draft education and communications work plans and products. Researchers and managers focused on efforts to coordinate and collaborate on research initiatives that affect management in the region, and learned about communications tools for sharing their work. During the final three days of the workshop all participants came together and learned how to use My World Geographic Information System (GIS) software. They also developed an action plan for projects that they will collaborate on together over the next year. Workshop partners included NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) and International Programs Office, and Conservation International. This workshop was the third in a series for the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape region that occurred over a two-year period. The first workshop (in Gorgona Island, Colombia) focused on

sustainable tourism, and the second workshop (in Machallia, Ecuador) focused on sustainable fisheries.

## Meetings

### *Centers for Ocean Science Education Excellence (COSEE)-West Advisory Committee Meeting*

On September 24, Julie Bursek participated in a COSEE-West advisory committee meeting. COSEE-West, one of ten COSEE centers funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), addresses ocean literacy by working with southern California informal education institutions, the Los Angeles Unified School District, the University of California Los Angeles, the University of Southern California, and the College of Exploration to bridge current science and research with education and outreach. The advisory committee makes recommendations to the COSEE-West Principle Investigators on how to best address emerging issues like climate change through collaborations and partnerships with NOAA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and informal science centers. COSEE-West provides opportunities for Los Angeles Unified School District teachers to engage in emerging ocean issues through discussions and field work with researchers and scientists via online teacher workshops, lecture series, and teacher mentor programs. For more information about COSEE-West visit <http://www.usc.edu/org/cosee-west/>.

## Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans (MERITO)

### *CINMS Reaches Hundreds of Hispanic Families at National Day for Kids Event*

On September 20, CINMS staff reached approximately 2,000 people (an estimated 500 families), primarily of Hispanic background, during a national Day for Kids hosted by the Boys and Girls Club of Oxnard and Port Hueneme. CINMS MERITO staff provided bilingual information (printed and spoken) to the public on CINMS resources and programming. Using a watershed model, MERITO staff demonstrated urban runoff dynamics to children and parents, and explained how we can all contribute to ocean protection by changing a few practices at home. The Boys and Girls Club of Oxnard seeks to provide a safe, positive place for local youth, and to have a significant impact upon their lives. They recently established a new relationship with CINMS

through collaboration on community events and the enrollment of their after-school program leaders in the MERITO Academy program.

### *MERITO Program Serves as Template for Eastern Tropical Pacific Countries*

From September 7-12, the MERITO program was used as a template for developing Education and Communications projects as part of a management capacity building workshop for the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape (ETPS) in Las Baulas National Park, Costa Rica. See *Sanctuary Educators Lead International* on p. 7.

### *Building Ocean Stewardship Among Multicultural Audiences - 3rd Annual MERITO Academy Educators Workshop*

From September 26-27, the CINMS MERITO Program, in partnership with the Channel Islands Marine Resource Institute, trained 20 educators during a Channel Islands MERITO Academy Educators Workshop. Participants were trained on the implementation of in-class activities and also experienced a trip to Santa Cruz Island within the CINMS aboard the R/V *Shearwater*. On the Island the educators were trained on implementing field activities (such as water quality testing, wildlife observing, and plankton collecting) and participated in an interpretative hike and kelp forest snorkeling. Fifteen of the twenty participants were MERITO Program returning teachers from public and charter schools in Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, Ventura, and Oxnard. The high number (75%) of participating educators returning to the program indicates their strong commitment to educating students on ocean protection, and speaks to the MERITO Program's success in targeting community needs. Among the five new educators participating, four were after school program leaders from the Boys and Girls Club in Oxnard and Port Hueneme, and the other was a teacher from a bilingual public school in Santa Barbara. The MERITO Academy Educators Workshop will result in approximately 700 students being reached. Students will experience high quality science programming that integrates earth and ocean sciences into fourth to eighth grade level public education and extended learning programs, both in classrooms and the outdoors. The MERITO Academy Educators Workshop is sponsored by NOAA's B-WET program and the Amgen Foundation through a collaboration with The Nature Conservancy.



## Channel Islands Naturalist Corps (CINC) Volunteer Program

### Program Overview

CINC volunteers educate local school children, residents, and tourists, monitor sanctuary and park resources, and conduct research on board local whale watch vessels departing out of Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Channel Islands harbors. The field season runs from January – October capturing the presence of migrating gray whales and foraging blue and humpback whales. In addition to field interpretation and research, CINC volunteers offer slide presentations for local schools and community groups, represent the sanctuary and park at marine-related community outreach events, and distribute outreach materials to area marine-related businesses through the Adopt-A-Business Program.

The sanctuary partners with the park to administer the CINC volunteer program, and its 155 volunteers. During the first year of service, CINC volunteers represent the sanctuary and park on board local whale watch vessels and educational cruises. After completion of the initial training to become whale watch interpreters, additional training opportunities are available for volunteers to become certified to lead island hikes through the park.

### Whale Watch Vessel Excursions

Harbor	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Vessel	<i>Condor Express</i>	<i>Island Adventure &amp; Islander</i>
Business	Sea Landing	Island Packers
September trips	27	4
October trips	26	0

This is currently the off-season for whale watching trips; however, blue, humpback, minke, and fin whales have been sighted. Additional boat operators will start up whale watching cruises again in gray whale season from December through May.

In September and October, concessionaires provided 57 whale watching excursions (31 in September and 26 in October). The number of excursions listed for each vessel only includes those with CINC volunteers on

board. Trips may have multiple naturalists aboard and CINC volunteers conducting photo-id research.

### Island Programs

**Day hikes:** In September, CINC island hike naturalists participated in 21 Island Packers trips to Santa Cruz Island's Scorpion Anchorage, one trip to San Miguel Island, and four trips to Santa Rosa Island aboard the *Island Adventure* and *Islander*, and six trips to Anacapa Island aboard the *Vanguard*. In October, naturalists participated in 18 Island Packers trips to Santa Cruz Island's Scorpion Anchorage, two trips to Anacapa Island, three trips to Santa Rosa Island, and one trip to San Miguel Island aboard the *Island Adventure* and *Islander*. In October they also participated in two trips to Anacapa Island aboard the *Vanguard*. In total, CINC naturalists participated in 58 September and August island hike trips.

**Overnight trips:** In October, CINC island hike naturalists participated in eleven multi-day trips: four to Anacapa Island, five to Santa Cruz Island, and two to Santa Rosa Island.

### Trainings

An island hike training course for new and returning CINC volunteers was conducted in April with the CINC, in addition to a field trip on board the R/V *Shearwater* to Anacapa Island and Scorpion Anchorage at East Santa Cruz Island. The training continues with shadow trips to the Channel Islands with a trained CINC volunteer and an evaluation trip with CINC staff to complete the certification process. There are currently a total of 48 volunteers certified to lead island hikes.

The park provided a free trip to Santa Rosa Island on October 4 to familiarize volunteers with this infrequently visited island. CINC volunteers, other Volunteers-in-Parks, park staff, and sanctuary staff participated in the trip. A planned October 11 trip to Santa Barbara Island for the same purpose was cancelled due to inclement weather.

On October 4, over 25 CINC volunteers participated in an Island Fox Workshop offered in partnership with the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History's Ty Warner Sea Center, Friends of the Island Fox, and the Santa Barbara Zoo. The workshop provided volunteers with the opportunity to increase their knowledge about Channel Islands ecosystems and how they have been

disrupted by low populations of Island Foxes. This training workshop helped prepare volunteers to educate others about the need to save the Island Fox and its habitat. The volunteers were also introduced to Finnigan, an Island Fox from Santa Rosa Island, at the Santa Barbara Zoo.

#### *Monthly In-Service Meetings*

Monthly in-service training meetings for the CINC will be held January through October in 2009 on the third Tuesday of each month. In addition to professional development, CINC training meetings serve an important role in volunteer communication and scheduling. Average attendance at the monthly meetings is from 90-100 volunteers. Year-end evaluations are being conducted with all CINC volunteers to seek their input on training, scheduling, and meetings.

#### *2009 Volunteer Recruitment*

The CINC volunteer orientation meeting scheduled for November 18, 2008, and training sessions in January 2009 have been cancelled due to the high retention rate of volunteers. A meeting date for November 2009 will be announced at a later time.

#### *2008 Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner*

On September 16, the sanctuary and park hosted the 3rd Annual Volunteer Recognition Event for over 220 CINC volunteers, CINC Volunteers-In-Parks, and Sanctuary Advisory Council volunteers. Mike Murray (Sanctuary Deputy Superintendent for Programs), and Russell

Galipeau (Park Superintendent), presented awards to several key volunteers, including those that had donated five, ten, and fifteen years of service. In 2008, nearly 921 park and sanctuary volunteers donated over 65,727 hours, the equivalent of 32.5 full-time employees! Special awards included the CINC Volunteer of the Year Award presented to Catherine French, the CINC Lighthouse Award presented to Ed Mayer, and the Sanctuary Advisory Council Leadership Award presented to Diane Black (see also *Sanctuary and Park Honor Advisory Council Chair* on p. 2).

Murray and Galipeau recognized additional volunteers at the event, including volunteers from the Outdoors Santa Barbara Visitor Center, volunteers supporting resource protection programs, and those from the park's visitor center. This annual event celebrates our volunteers and symbolizes the commitment that the sanctuary and park have made to serve the local community with effective education and outreach programs.

#### *From Shore to Sea Lecture Series*

Several CINC volunteers had the opportunity to attend the monthly From Shore to Sea lectures. This lecture series allows volunteers to expand their knowledge of the resources in the Santa Barbara Channel, in addition to their regular in-season monthly meetings. See p. 6 for more information on the recent lectures, and general information on the series.

### **Public Outreach**

#### *The Big Swim*

On September 13, CINC volunteers assisted with The Big Swim landing party and an outreach table with information about the sanctuary and park. See *The Big Swim* on p. 5 for more information on the event.

#### *Coastal Cleanup Day*

The 24<sup>th</sup> annual California Coastal Cleanup Day took place on September 20, with cleanups scheduled between 9 a.m. and noon throughout all of California, on beaches and along rivers, creeks, and lakes. Sanctuary and park volunteers and staff provided information about the Channel Islands and sponsored cleanups at Emma Wood State Beach in Ventura County and Chase Palm Park Beach in Santa Barbara County in support of this statewide effort.



Shauna Bingham and John Curwen at the Volunteer Recognition Dinner for sanctuary and park volunteers on September 16, 2008. Photo: Rebecca Young/ CINMS.

### *Santa Barbara Zoo Fox Festival*

CINC volunteers and park staff hosted an information booth at the October 7 Santa Barbara Zoo Fox Festival. General information about the sanctuary and park, as well as information about island fox restoration programs was made available to several thousand zoo visitors.

### *Santa Barbara Harbor & Seafood Festival*

On October 11, staff from the sanctuary and park, and from NOAA's Office for Law Enforcement provided outreach and information about Channel Islands resources at the Santa Barbara Harbor & Seafood Festival. Several staff, including Chris Mobley (Sanctuary Superintendent), worked side by side with the fishing community and harbor staff to prepare locally caught seafood such as sea urchin (uni), crab, and spiny lobster. The sanctuary's research vessel *Shearwater* was

also available for public dockside tours. Over 10,000 local residents and tourists attended the festival.

### *NOAA World Conservation and Stewardship Story on Blue Whales Ship Strikes*

Shauna Bingham (Sanctuary Volunteer Program and Outreach Coordinator) submitted an article on blue whales and ship strikes to the September edition of NOAA World: "NOAA Agencies Protect Endangered Whales from Ship Strikes off Santa Barbara." The NOAA Office of Communications publishes the NOAA WORLD newsletter monthly. The blue whale and ship strikes story, additional stories, news, photos, videos and other information resources, continuously updated, can be found at the NOAA WORLD website:

[www.noaaworld.noaa.gov/conservation/sep2008\\_conservation\\_4.html](http://www.noaaworld.noaa.gov/conservation/sep2008_conservation_4.html).

## **SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS**

### **Channel Islands Naturalist Corps Volunteer Field Report: September 21, 2008**

It was an amazing day on the water. Fellow naturalists Debbie Shelley and Eileen Avery joined me. The swells were high, but seemed to subside as we got closer to Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa islands. We came across a couple of blue whales that delighted the 29 passengers on board. I could see more whales in the distance, including two that seemed to blow often. Captain Dave saw them too and decided to investigate. We were all glad he did. It turned out to be a cow and calf pair of humpbacks! I thought I recognized the cow, as she had a distinctive white stripe down her dorsal fin. The last time that I saw her (a few months ago), she did not have a calf with her. They stayed right near the boat during their dives. All of a sudden, two blue whales appeared at the bow at a very quick pace. We were surrounded by both blue and humpback whales! It seemed as though both pairs were hurrying to meet up when they were around the boat. We then found another pair of blue whales that seemed to be resting, but then suddenly picked up their pace and crossed the bow at a pretty good clip - one of them even brought its head out of the water as it crossed us.

After the amazing whale watching we began to head to Santa Cruz Island, but not before checking out a mega pod of long-beaked common dolphins. There were many calves, including a number of acrobatic ones in the bunch!

It was another amazing day of whale watching! In total, we saw at least eight blue whales, a cow and calf humpback whale pair, and a mega pod of common dolphins!

- Carol Celic  
Channel Islands Naturalist Corps '08



## Adopt-A-Business Program

The Adopt-A-Business Program provides sanctuary information to area businesses that provide services to Channel Islands recreational users. Approximately a dozen CINC volunteers deliver *Protecting your Channel Islands* brochures to about 80 Ventura and Santa Barbara area marine-related businesses on an on-going basis. This method effectively places the Channel Islands MPA network and sanctuary maps into the hands of fishermen and other users. In October, volunteers also distributed Advisory Council vacancy announcements to a majority of the Adopt-a-Business locations.

## MARITIME HERITAGE PROGRAM



Marcus Lopez, Jr. and women paddlers arriving at *Limuw*.  
Photo: Robert Schwemmer

### Channel Islands

On September 6, the sanctuary's new 41-foot research vessel escorted *Elye' Wun*, a traditionally built redwood plank Chumash canoe (or tomol), and her paddlers on a twenty-two mile crossing from Channel Islands Harbor to *Limuw* (Santa Cruz Island). The open ocean crossing started at 3:20 a.m. and was successfully completed with the tomol's noon arrival at Scorpion Anchorage, where Chumash elders and friends greeted the women paddlers who completed the final leg of the crossing. Following the landing, sanctuary staff participated in the traditional community circle ceremony where the paddlers and boat captains, including sanctuary staff, were recognized for their contributions to the safe and successful crossing. The sanctuary's vessel served as lead safety vessel, rescue boat, filming platform and communications



(Top) After a successful landing *Elye'wun* is carried to a place of honor. (Bottom) Tomol paddlers. Photos: Robert Schwemmer

center. The vessel's crew included Charles Lara (Sanctuary Vessel Operator), John Brooks (NOAA filmmaker), Dennis Carlson (volunteer crewman) and Robert Schwemmer (Sanctuary Maritime Heritage Coordinator). Chumash Native Americans have a deep spiritual and cultural connection to the Channel Islands and sanctuary, regularly journeying across the Santa Barbara Channel in tomols. Chumash people are revitalizing their maritime heritage, and work closely with CINMS on a range of related projects and programs. For information on past tomol crossings visit: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/cr/chumash.html>.

## West Coast Region

### *USS Macon Documentary Film*

Robert Schwemmer participated in the documentary film production featuring the *USS Macon* expedition at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI). On February 12, 1935, the *USS Macon*, a 785-foot dirigible, was lost with her four Curtiss Sparrowhawk F9C-2 biplanes offshore of Point Sur. In 2006, a team of scientists from Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the ONMS Maritime Heritage Program, MBARI, and Stanford University conducted a successful five-day remotely operated vehicle (ROV) survey of the historic remains of the airship and biplanes. During the research cruise aboard MBARI's *Western Flyer*, the team completed more than 40 hours of deepwater high-definition visual surveys utilizing the ROV *Tiburon* at a depth of 1,500 feet of water. The German based production company *der Spiegel* has constructed a full-scale control car and interior features to replicate the *Macon*. The documentary is due to be released in the Spring of 2009 and will be featured on the National Geographic Channel (USA), Discovery Channel (Canada), and two television broadcasts in Germany. In addition, *der Spiegel* is currently marketing the documentary to Great Britain, Italy, and Japan. More information on the 2006 *USS Macon* expedition is available at:



*der Spiegel* production team filming expedition scientists.  
Photo: Lisa Borok/MBARI

<http://www.sanctuaries.noaa.gov/missions/2006macon/welcome.html>.

### ***CHANNEL ISLANDS: STORIES FROM THE PAST***

Seventy years ago this month in 1938 the fishing vessel Dante Alighieri II went ashore on Santa Barbara Island. From the official cruise report of the U.S. Coast Guard patrol boat Aurora [in-part]: "At 0324 received word from the purse seiner Sea Rover via radio telephone that the purse seiner Dante Alighieri had gone aground on SW end of Santa Barbara Island in a dense fog and nine men were marooned on the beach.... Arrived at scene of disaster at 7:00 a.m. to find an exceptionally heavy surf breaking on the beach. The Dante Alighieri had broken up and was a total loss. Due to the heavy surf and the great amount of drifting wreckage, contact from seaward was impossible at this time, although an attempt was made to shoot lines ashore from a small boat. At 10:15 sent landing party with gear ashore on lee side of the island to effect a rescue from the top of a 500 foot cliff. This procedure proved unsuccessful due to dangerous contours of the cliff and loose rocks. However, a survey was made of the situation from the cliff as to the best approach by small boat. The landing party returned to the ship at 1330 and the Aurora stood around the island to locate anchorage off the position of the marooned fishermen. It was found with high tide the sea was less boisterous and the wreckage had drifted away leaving the water clear for running a line ashore. ... A line was shot ashore and a 9 thread line sent in with a ring buoy made fast midway. By picking out a good place for the fishermen to plunge into the surf from the beach and watching the seas carefully, rescue was effected by taking one man off at a time." Letter addressed to Lieutenant Commander Niels Haugen, Aurora commander: "We wish to take this opportunity to express the sincere gratitude and thanks of our selves and our families for the highly couragious [sic] and commendable rescue. . . . The conditions under which this rescue was enacted and the manner in which the officers and men of the Coast Guard Patrol Boat "Aurora" conducted themselves during the rescue is a very shining example of why your splendid service holds such a high position in the esteem of the citizens of our country, particularly among those men who go to sea and their families who await them at home." Signed by 15 survivors

For more information on the *Dante Alighieri* visit:  
<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/shipwreck/dbase/cinms/dante/ali.html>

### *Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS)*

During September the OCNMS conducted a preliminary diver survey and assessment of the wreck of the Panamanian freighter *Andalusia*, a World War I-era steam cargo ship (originally named *USS Volunteer*) that caught fire, grounded, broke apart and sank off Seal and Sail rocks, in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Washington in 1949. Although the site is outside OCNMS boundaries, the survey provided OCNMS staff with valuable experience on staging underwater surveys within that sanctuary, and will yield a high-quality report for the State of Washington. NOAA's Maritime Heritage Program, ONMS, and volunteer divers from the Washington Scuba Alliance and the Puget Sound-based

Submerged Cultural Resources Exploration Team (SCRET), a volunteer group of shipwreck divers, supported the dive activities. Schwemmer provided research for the vessel's history and continues to assist the divers with information on key artifacts recorded during the archaeological survey.

### *Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS)*

Schwemmer has been conducting research on behalf of the GFNMS. During a recent research cruise onboard the R/V *Fulmar*; scientists conducted a ROV visual survey of a shipwreck in Drakes Bay. The shipwreck was discovered during a multibeam/side scan sonar survey completed by NOAA's Office of Coast Survey in partnership with the National Park Service's Submerged Resources Center in 2007. The initial survey concluded that the shipwreck was a motor vessel powered by a three-cylinder diesel engine, a typical design of the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Although the steel hull has experienced a high-level of degradation, there is still evidence of ship parts such as the diesel engine, windlass, mooring bits, chocks, and structural frames and outer hull plating. The ROV survey will aid ongoing historic research being conducted to help identify the mystery shipwreck.

**WEB SITE** (<http://channelislands.noaa.gov>)

### **Recent Updates**

Visit the web pages listed below to see recently updated sections of the CINMS web site.

The final UCSB Ocean Science Education Building environmental document is now available online at: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/wnew.html>.

The Blue Whale Ship Strike web page has been expanded to include current information as well as weekly maps of current whale sightings at: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/currentsightings.html>.

Advisory Council vacancy announcements, meeting information, and the new Ocean Acidification Report are now posted at:

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/main.html>,  
<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/announcement.html>,  
and  
[http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/report\\_doc.html](http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/report_doc.html).

Sanctuary boundary information has been updated at: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/about.html>,  
[http://channelislands.noaa.gov/drop\\_down/mission.html](http://channelislands.noaa.gov/drop_down/mission.html).

The new 41-foot sanctuary research vessel has a web presence online at: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/wnew.html>.

Don't forget to check out our calendar of events and 'what's new' pages to find out what's happening locally: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/calendar.html>,  
<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/wnew.html>.

### **Upcoming Modifications**

We are currently in the design and programming phase for the West Coast regional Shipwreck Database. Development has begun to re-structure the Marine Reserves section of the web site to include dynamic, html dropdown navigation.

The blue whale education pages are on deck for November, as well as a re-structure of the Education section. Lastly, Plumes and Blumes content is currently being developed.

*Please take a few moments to view the site. Your feedback is greatly appreciated. Comments and suggestions can be sent to [amy.cale@noaa.gov](mailto:amy.cale@noaa.gov).*



## NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) AND OFFICE OF NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES (ONMS) NEWS



### ONMS Leadership Team Conference; Sean Hastings Recognized as ONMS Employee of the Year

From September 15-19, Chris Mobley (Sanctuary Superintendent) and Julie Bursek (Sanctuary Education Coordinator) attended the ONMS Leadership Team Conference in Arlington, Virginia. The conference focused on "transition" and the group discussed: the next 12-18 months, issues of common interest to NOAA (e.g., climate change, resource management, and the status and use of ONMS visitor centers), and the challenges of achieving an ONMS identity. Phil Musselwhite (Director of National Park Service Identity at Harpers Ferry) presented a National Park Service case study. ONMS Director Dan Basta presented 2007 special

achievement awards to individuals and teams, including to Sean Hastings (Sanctuary Resource Protection Coordinator) who earned the ONMS non-supervisory professional Employee of the Year award for his many contributions to the Channel Islands MPA network. On September 17, the Leadership Team attended the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation's reception in honor of four outgoing members of the National Marine Sanctuary caucus and House Oceans caucus: Rep. Tom Allen (Maine), Rep. Wayne Gilchrest (Maryland), Rep. Jim Saxton (New Jersey), and Rep. Tom Lantos (California) for all the great work that they accomplished on behalf of our coasts and oceans during their tenure as members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

### THREE-MONTH CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY CALENDAR

NOVEMBER	
Nov. 11, 12	<i>From Shore to Sea Lecture Series:</i> Greg Sanders, Minerals Management Service <i>Sea Otters Expand to Santa Barbara Coast</i> Tuesday: 7:00 pm Santa Barbara Maritime Museum (113 Harbor Way in Santa Barbara) Wednesday: 7:00 pm Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center (1901 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura)
Nov. 14	<i>Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting</i> Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center (1901 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura) An agenda, directions and more information will be posted at: <a href="http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/announcement.html">channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/announcement.html</a>
Nov. 15	<i>Gold Coast Science Network, "A Taste of Science" Conference for K-12 Science Educators</i> Oxnard College, Oxnard For more information: <a href="http://members.aol.com/_ht_a/gcsn98/main.htm">http://members.aol.com/_ht_a/gcsn98/main.htm</a>
Nov. 15	<i>NOAA and Our Planet Day*</i> Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach For more information: <a href="http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/newsevents/eventsdetail/noaa_and_our_planet_day/">http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/newsevents/eventsdetail/noaa_and_our_planet_day/</a> *the sanctuary's research vessel <i>Shearwater</i> will offer public dockside tours
DECEMBER	
Dec. 9, 10	<i>From Shore to Sea Lecture Series:</i> Ann Huston, Channel Islands National Park <i>Caire History of Santa Cruz Island</i> Tuesday: 7:00 pm Santa Barbara Maritime Museum (113 Harbor Way in Santa Barbara) Wednesday: 7:00 pm Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center (1901 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura)
JANUARY	
Jan. 13, 14	<i>From Shore to Sea Lecture Series:</i> (Lecturer and title of talk to be announced) Tuesday: 7:00 pm Santa Barbara Maritime Museum (113 Harbor Way in Santa Barbara) Wednesday: 7:00 pm Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center (1901 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura)
Jan. 23	<i>Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting</i> Casa Las Palmas (323 E. Cabrillo Blvd. in Santa Barbara) An agenda, directions and more information will be posted at: <a href="http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/announcement.html">channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/announcement.html</a>

## CINMS Staff

### Santa Barbara Harbor Office

**Christopher Mobley** *Superintendent*

**Todd Jacobs** *Deputy Superintendent*

**Michael Murray** *Deputy Superintendent,  
Advisory Council and  
Management Plan Coordinator*

Amy Cale – *Web Developer*

LTJG Matt Davis – *Operations Officer*

Steve Dyer – *Vessel Captain*

Laura Francis – *Education Coordinator*

Reginald Greenwood – *Vessel Operator*

Sean Hastings – *Resource Protection Coordinator*

Steve Katz – *Research Coordinator*

Sarah Kinsfather – *Management Plan Specialist*

Charles Lara – *Vessel Captain*

Dani Lipski – *Research Specialist*

Robert Schwemmer – *Regional Maritime Heritage Coordinator*

Natalie Senyk – *Physical Scientist*

Terrence Shinn – *Vessel Captain*

Ben Waltenberger – *Physical Scientist*

Rebecca Young – *Program Support Specialist*

### Ventura County Field Office

Shauna Bingham – *Volunteer Program and Outreach  
Coordinator*

Julie Bursek – *Education Coordinator*

Clare Fritzsche – *CINMS Volunteer Program & Administrative  
Assistant*

Lorri Herr – *Program Support Specialist*

Rocío Lozano de Knowlton – *Bilingual Education & Outreach  
Specialist*

Tina Reed – *Administrative Support Coordinator*

### ONMS West Coast Region Staff

**William Douros** – *Regional Superintendent*

Matt Brookhart – *Policy Coordinator*

Nicole Capps – *Management Support Specialist*

Dave Lott – *Operations Coordinator*

### Local ONMS Staff

Claire Fackler – *West Coast Education Liaison*

Sarah Marquis – *West Coast Media Coordinator*

### Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary Foundation

Kelly Darnell – *Acting Executive Director*

## Learn More About Your Sanctuary

The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary produces the Sanctuary Superintendent's Report in conjunction with bi-monthly Sanctuary Advisory Council meetings. To learn more about the sanctuary please visit our web site at: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov>.

To learn more about the Sanctuary Advisory Council please visit:

<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/main.html>.

## The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

The National Marine Sanctuary System consists of 14 marine protected areas that encompass more than 150,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington State to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The system includes 13 national marine sanctuaries and the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The ONMS, which manages the system, was established under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act of 1972. Visit the ONMS web site at: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/>.

## Channel Islands National Park

To learn about Channel Islands National Park visit their web site at: <http://www.nps.gov/chis/homepage.htm>.

## GET INVOLVED AND STAY INFORMED!

To learn how to get involved in the sanctuary visit: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/involved.html>

Sign up for the CINMS listserv to receive email notices about upcoming sanctuary events, and public meetings of the Sanctuary Advisory Council and its working groups: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/focus/list.html>

## - CONTACT INFORMATION -

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