

CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 15, 2002 MEETING

Attendance: Jack Wickam (SC), K. Gaffney (TOC), John Fisher, Jane DeLay, V.Nicols , F. O'Neill, Susan Danielson (SOS), Carol Maehr (ACS), Meredith Lopuch (WWF), Steve Shimek (OP), Milos Radakovich (Bay Net), Holly Price and Huff McGonigal (MBNMS).

Announcements:

- Fall Bay Net classes have started in Monterey and Santa Cruz.
- CDFG will vote on a proposal for marine reserves at the CINMS on Oct. 23, 2002 in SB.
- The Marine Mammal Commission met last week in SD. The USFW recovery Plan for the s. Sea Otter is expected out in Jan. 2003 and the EIS on removing the otter free zone should be out in Feb. 2003.
- SOS is sponsoring an event at Coastanoa with Bill Douros and Kaitilin Gaffney on Nov. 4.
- Scoping comments are due 10/20 on the BLM Coastal Rocks monument.

Sanctuary Report:

- Holly reported that a plume was visible during the last Cruise Ship visit, the Sanctuary took water samples that came up negative for e.coli and detergents. CSUMB confirmed the anchorage location to be sure the ship was not damaging the shale beds. The CWG discussed the need for a standard protocol for Sanctuary staff to deal with all future cruise ship visit and expressed concern about staff time required to deal with multiple visits.
- Holly announced that the MBNMS has applied for some Prop. 40 funding to help address beach closures.
- Holly discussed a recent meeting in Moss Landing to discuss desal plans.

Resource Protection

- The CWG reiterated their concern about cruise ship discharges and the inadequacy of a voluntary program. The CWG agreed to send a letter to the Sanctuary and SAC reiterating their adopted position of support for a ban on cruise ship discharges and offering to serve as the working group to address this issue in the management plan review process.
- The CWG also voiced concern about deferring the invasives issue in the Jmpr and decided to suggest to the SAC and the MBNMS that the management plan discuss invasives and provide a basic framework including: prevention, early detection, education, research and response.
- The CWG voted unanimously to support a prohibition on krill harvesting be included in the Jmpr.
- Kaitilin agreed to draft a letter to the MBNMS and SAC articulating the CWG's positions of support for a ban on cruise ship discharges and krill harvesting and support for including invasives in the Jmpr.