

**Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Conservation Working Group Minutes
Tuesday, November 19, 2002 • 9:30-12:00**

Attendance: Vicki Nichols, Susan Danielson (SOS), Holly Price/NOAA, Steve Lonhart SIMON/NOAA, Katie Siegler/NOAA, Cecil Wahle League of Women Voters, Steve Webster, Monterey Bay Aquarium, John Fischer, Debra Streeter, Michael Osmod (WWF)

Announcements

Save Our Shores and the Ocean Conservancy will sponsor an evening with author Ross Klein, discussing his book on cruise ships. Jan 14th in Monterey.

Sanctuary Report

- **Duke monitoring:** Report from NOAA on SIMON projects funded from Duke money. Semi annual reports will be provided, up to date data (raw and summary). Vicki expressed concern about renewal of permit taking place within the middle of monitoring. Vicki requested a detail report from NOAA on summary of projects and \$ allocations. For more info contact: steve.lonhart@noaa.gov
- Ocean Conference update; reported significant Sanctuary presence.
- Enforcement/Investigation update: 3 boat groundings; small sewage spills; shark chumming. Could not give details.
- First Flush, held Nov 7th. 50 volunteers. Lots of media coverage; Grant Canyon Lab will be testing toxicity samples.
- Mgmt Plan Working Groups; selection of nominations has not been finalized.
- PG&E, former owner of Duke plant, fined by Regional Board for discharging hot water in harbor from 1974-1998. Funding to go to implement the Sanctuary's agricultural plan. Comm Fdn Mont County and Regional Board to oversee \$950,000.
- Boundary extension to the South; left to the community to sort out to assist Sanctuary. WWF is providing funds to hire facilitator.

Management Plan Review

- Review CWG letter to SAC; group reviewed the two drafts; one on Invasive Species, the other on Cruise Ships. Group made recommendations to Vicki for her presentation to the SAC in December in HMB.
- Representative from the Monterey area League of Women Voters indicated they would support a regulation on cruise ships in the Sanctuary.

Updates

- CVRWQCB Ag runoff waiver; Reported by Katie Siegler/NOAA. Under federal Clean Water, no regulations. State has ability to regulate. Waiver about to expire on polluted runoff, changes to be made by the Regional Board on the process. WQPP working with groups to put practices on properties to promote water quality. Testing for sedimentation, pesticide and nutrient runoff. Currently volunteer basis, and data collected is confidential/private. Regional Board offering conditional waivers: 1) participate as a group; 2) participate as an individual landowner. Waiver with more responsibility and practices necessary. January CWG meeting agenda to include support letter for conditional waivers.