

California Coastal National Monument

National Landscape Conservation System • California

2009

Manager's Annual Report
FY 2009

BLM

California Coastal National Monument • California NLCS



Photo by Bob Wick

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION SYSTEM**

**California Coastal National Monument
FY 2009 Manager's Report**

Introduction

- **Unit:** California Coastal National Monument (CA-939)
BLM California State Office

- **Contact Information:** Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
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- **Manager:** Herrick (Rick) E. Hanks, Monument Manager
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- **Established:** Presidential Proclamation #7264, January 11, 2000

- **Acreage:** Approximately 1,000 acres (consisting of more than 20,000 offshore rocks & small islands within the 14,600 square nautical mile CCNM Corridor)

- **Annual Visitation:** Millions of annual viewers [Note: There is no portion of the CCNM set-up for visitor-use (i.e., actually walking on the Monument); however, the CCNM is the most viewed of the Nation's national monuments. Every year, millions of California residents, out-of-state visitors, and international travelers view portions of the California Coastal National Monument, most unaware that they are looking at a national monument.]

NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION SYSTEM

California Coastal National Monument

MANAGER'S REPORT

Fiscal Year 2009

1. Background.

- The California Coastal National Monument (CCNM) is unique to Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) National Landscape Conservation System holdings, consisting of more than 20,000 rocks and small islands located off the 1,100 miles of the California coastline.
- CCNM was established to elevate the protection of "all unappropriated or unreserved lands and interest in lands owned or controlled by the United States in the form of islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles above mean high tide within 12 nautical miles of the shoreline of the State of California."
- The Presidential Proclamation recognizes the need to protect the CCNM's overwhelming scenic quality and natural beauty, and it specifically directs the protection of the geologic formations and the habitat that these rocks and small islands (i.e., the portion above mean high tide) provide for seabirds, sea mammals, and other plant and animal life (both terrestrial and marine) on the CCNM.
- In addition, the proclamation recognizes the CCNM as containing "irreplaceable scientific values vital to protecting the fragile ecosystems of the California coastline."
- CCNM is home for thousands of seals and sea lions, a haven for hundreds of thousands of seabirds, a habitat for millions of upper rocky intertidal species, and a spectacular interplay of land and sea.
- The mission of the CCNM is to protect and foster an appreciation for and a stewardship of California's coastal resources associated with the CCNM, while the stated goals for the CCNM include using the CCNM to help enhance cooperative and collaborative initiatives and partnerships with a variety of communities, agencies, organizations, academic institutions, the public, and other stakeholders.
- Since the CCNM is located adjacent to or embedded within many jurisdictions, including other federal and state agencies, counties, municipalities, tribes, and private entities, the only way that the CCNM can be effectively managed is with partnerships.
- Administration of the CCNM by BLM is performed through a CCNM Manager, duty stationed in Monterey, California, and under the Deputy State Director for Natural Resources in the BLM's California State Office in Sacramento. The CCNM Manager works closely with the BLM Field Managers of the five California BLM field offices with coastal responsibilities (i.e., Arcata, Ukiah, Hollister, Bakersfield, and Palm Springs/South Coast Field Offices) and who have the day-to-day operational responsibilities related to their respective portion of the CCNM. The five field offices are under three BLM District Offices (Northern California, Central California, and California Desert).

CALIFORNIA COASTAL NATIONAL MONUMENT



The more than 20,000 small islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles that make up the California Coastal National Monument (CCNM) are located within the 14,600 nautical square mile “CCNM Corridor” (i.e., the area “above mean high tide within 12 nautical miles of the shoreline of the State of California”).

2. Natural & Heritage Resources Conditions.

a. Natural Resource Trends.

- Based on subjective observations, the overall natural and heritage condition trend for the CCNM appears to be relatively stable.
- However, the overall condition trend of the 20,000 rocks and small islands of the CCNM is obviously heavily influenced by factors within the larger coastal and ocean environment in which they are located, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - California Current
 - Annual ocean upwelling
 - Ocean health
- In addition, expanding human populations in California, nationally, and internationally are the biggest threat to maintaining a stable trend or towards accomplishing an upward trend.

b. Heritage Resource Trends.

- With only limited cultural resources inventory conducted on the CCNM, it is difficult to adequately assess the condition and trends of the CCNM's heritage resources; however, from what we have been able to see from subjective observations, the stability is affected mostly from wave and water action. For example, one of the few recorded prehistoric-protohistoric archaeological sites on the CCNM is a fairly large midden site that is accessible at low tide is walked on but not known to 99% of the visitors. It is erosion from high storm surf that is the site's biggest threat.
- There are hundreds of ship wrecks associated with the CCNM but very few remnants actually on the CCNM. Those that are on the CCNM are from wrecks since the 1920s and these are continually eroding and corroding due to exposure to water and wave action on very roughed parts of the coast (e.g., destroyer engine at Honda Point off Vandenberg Air Force Base).
- There are also an unknown number of historic remnants of shipping operations attached to CCNM rocks (e.g., steel rings or wood pillars) that are corroding and rotting before they have been recorded.

c. Land Health Assessments

- **Percent Assessed.** Zero.
- **Annual Accomplishment.** See information below.

d. Inventory.

- While much is known about the natural history and ecology of the coastal mainland of California and its related marine resources, only limited attention has been paid to the offshore rocks and small islands. As a result, one of the on-going priorities related to the implementation of the CCNM Resource Management Plan (RMP) is the collection of data specific to the resources and resource values associated with the Monument.

- In order to provide a complete ecological perspective of the CCNM, all three of the basic dimensions of an ecosystem--physical (abiotic), biological (biotic), and socio-cultural (cultural) or the “ABCs” of an ecosystem (i.e., abiotic, biotic, and cultural)--need to be taken into account. Working to understand the interconnectedness of all three of these dimensions as they apply to the CCNM is an ongoing effort.
- To date, two main, monument-wide literature searches have been completed for the CCNM. These are:
 - A summary of the key birds and marine mammals (LeValley 2002)
 - A geologic characterization study (Shaw 2007)
- The CCNM RMP, completed in September 2005, identified the need to conduct a CCNM Site Characterization Study and Survey as one of the six implementation priorities. The CCNM Site Characterization is a collection and synthesizing of what is known about the CCNM. This compilation of CCNM data is far from being completed. It is, therefore, intended that the CCNM Site Characterization functions as a "living" document to be added to and updated as new information becomes available.
- In FY 2009, with a small portion of the FY 2008 NLCS Science Funding, the inventory, conducted by a botanist from College of the Redwood's Fort Bragg campus, was completed for the terrestrial plant species on CCNM rocks and seastacks along the Mendocino County coast from the Mendocino Headland to Fort Bragg. The write-up of the complete species list is still pending, but the inventory did identify a rare and endemic form of Indian Paint-Brush (*Castilleja Mendocinii*).

e. Restoration.

- The BLM has not conducted any restoration projects on the CCNM.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), however, maintains an on-going restoration project for seabirds focused on the restoration of nesting colonies of the Common Murre (*Uria aalge*), a highly gregarious, top-nesting seabird. The project also deals with colony restoration for a variety of other seabird species. The majority of the FWS' restoration sites are on the CCNM, including Devil's Slide Rock south of the City of Pacifica located south of San Francisco in San Mateo County, California, and the Castle Rock-Hurricane Complex at the northern end of Big Sur in Monterey County, California. During FY09, FWS accomplished the following:
 - Completed thirteenth year of monitoring at these sites.
 - Completed the third year without use of “social attraction” devices (i.e., decoys, mirrors and call sound boxes) on Devil's Slide Rock.
 - Also collected breeding phenology, productivity, and breeding population sizes for Brandt's Cormorant's (*Phalacrocorax penicillatus*).
 - Date collected on Common Murres at Devil's Slide Rock included:
 - Seasonal attendance patterns

- Breeding population sizes
- Breeding phenology
- Reproductive success
- Adult co-attendance and chick provisioning
- Although FWS's 2008 report has not been released to data, indications are that the number of this year's seabird breeding pairs was down more than 40%. That's only two years from a year that Devil's Slide Rock had 361 murre breeding pairs that was a 120% increase from 2005 (i.e., the largest number since the restoration efforts began in 1996). Even worst, the murre production success was zero (i.e., no chicks).
- At Castle Rock-Hurricane Complex, FWS completed the third year with a day/night camera and thermal imaging camera in use during the seabird breeding season.
- In addition, the FWS' Common Murre Restoration Project conducted the annual aerial photographic survey of breeding colonies of Common Murres, as well as Brandt's Cormorants, and Double-crested Cormorants (*P. auritus*) to assess long-term population trends of these surface-nesting seabird species, using whole-colony counts of birds and nests from photographs. These surveys also have been important in restoration by assessing the following:
 - Injuries to seabird populations caused by oil spills, gill-net fishing, human disturbance and other anthropogenic factors
 - Effects of El Niños, La Niñas, and climate change on seabird populations
 - Opportunities for and effectiveness of seabird restoration projects

3. Recreation Facilities, Roads, & Trails Conditions.

a. Overview.

b. **Construction.** Not Applicable.

c. **Maintenance.** Not Applicable

a. Signage.

- **Sign Plan.** To be addressed in the CCNM Business & Integrated Communication Plan(s), see Items 7.b. & 7.c. below.
- **Portal Signs & Kiosks.**
 - With a national monument that is spread offshore of the 1,100 miles of the California coastline and with no portion of the CCNM on the mainland, there are currently no portal signs.

- The CCNM RMP identified the preparation of a sign plan as a future management action: The sign plan will identify potential locations for CCNM portal signs, if appropriate.
- Before the sign plan will be prepared, both the CCNM Integrated Communication Plan (a plan that addresses public affairs, outreach, education, and interpretation) and the CCNM Business Plan need to be completed (See Items 7.b. & 7.c. below).

4. Outreach, Environmental Education, Interpretation, & Volunteers.

a. **Definitions.** For purposes of this report, the following definitions apply:

- **Outreach:** Communication efforts to promote partnerships and participation in protection and management of the CCNM.
- **Environmental Education:** An educational approach that presents environmental concepts to specific audiences in ways that encourage knowledge, critical thinking and information retention.
- **Interpretation:** A communication approach that evokes intellectual and emotional connections to a tangible resource and/or natural and cultural resource values.
- **Public Affairs:** Communication efforts to present the official position and policies of the BLM and the CCNM, to share information and to engage stakeholders and publics in natural and cultural resource management.

b. **Outreach.**

- A CCNM indoor panel was developed and installed for the Point Vicente Interpretive Center at Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, and a signage plan was developed with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes regarding the interpretive plan locations and their interconnectiveness with the CCNM.
- A CCNM indoor kiosk for the CCNM Palos Verdes Peninsula Gateway was placed at the City of Los Angeles' Cabrillo Marine Aquarium at San Pedro, CA.
- A 2'x3' CCNM outdoor interpretative panel was developed for and installed along the coastal interpretative trail of the Piedras Blancas Outstanding Natural Area near San Simeon, CA.
- Developed a 2'x3' CCNM interpretive panel for installation off Bird Rock on Heisler Park by the City of Laguna Beach, CA
- The CCNM Palos Verdes Peninsula brochure and the CCNM Point Arena Gateway added for viewing and downloading on the CCNM website.
- Upgraded the CCNM website to include a more user-friendly homepage with an information box for quick reference and a "splash" notice for new items.

c. Visitor Centers.

- There is no BLM visitor center (nor plans for a BLM visitor center) associated with the CCNM; however, a wide varieties of visitor centers and similar venues of various CCNM partners are currently being used as “CCNM visitor contact stations” associated with the five initial CCNM Gateways (See below).
- Of the five initial CCNM Gateways, we are currently involved with the following venues of our various partners:
 - **Trinidad Gateway:** In addition to the CCNM Gateway indoor kiosk at Trinidad Museum and CCNM panel at Humboldt State University Marine Laboratory, in FY 2009, through some BLM cooperative funding obtained by the Arcata Field Office, the Trinidad Museum was able to develop some displays for their new facility, displays that focus on the natural and cultural heritage of the coastal region and the CCNM.
[CCNM Visitor Contact Station: Trinidad Museum, Trinidad, Humboldt County, CA]
 - **Point Arena Gateway:** CCNM Gateway indoor/outdoor kiosk at Point Arena Lighthouse Keeper’s light station museum and on the porch of the mercantile building at Arena Cove.
[CCNM Visitor Contact Station: Point Arena Lighthouse, Point Arena, Mendocino County, CA]
 - **Pigeon Point Gateway (for the San Mateo-Santa Cruz Coast):** CCNM Gateway indoor kiosk in the Fog Signal Building at the Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park and a CCNM panel at the Pacifica Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center at Rockway Beach in the City of Pacifica, CA.
[CCNM Visitor Contact Station: Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park, Pigeon Point, San Mateo County, CA]
 - **Piedras Blancas-San Simeon Gateway:** CCNM Gateway indoor kiosk at the San Simeon Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center at San Simeon, CA.
[CCNM Visitor Contact Station: Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary’s Coastal Discovery Center at William Randolph Hearst Memorial State Beach, San Simeon, San Luis Obispo County, CA]
 - **Palos Verdes Peninsula Gateway:** CCNM Gateway indoor kiosk and a wall display at the Point Vicente Interpretative Center, City of Rancho Palos Verdes, CA.
[CCNM Visitor Contact Station: Point Vicente Interpretative Center, City of Rancho Palos Verdes, Los Angeles County, CA]

d. Environmental Education.

- In April, CCNM participated with a booth at the City of Los Angeles’ Cabrillo Marine Aquarium’s Earth Day Program at San Pedro, CA, with more than 1,000 people of all ages attending the day-long event. At the BLM booth, dozens of kids colored, cut and assembled pelican headbands while their parents discussed the CCNM with the CCNM Manager and Palms Springs-South Coast FO (& CCNM Southern California) Interpretive Specialist.

- In June, CCNM had a booth and set up a spotting scope so visitors could view seabirds, seals, and sea lions on CCNM rocks at the annual Trinidad Fish Day held throughout the town of Trinidad, CA.
 - For the fourth year in a row in July, CCNM had a booth at the Coastal Discovery Fair sponsored by the NOAA's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and California State Parks at the William Randolph Hearst Memorial State Beach in San Simeon, California. CCNM used its "Brown Pelican Headband" activity to attract parents and their children to the booth which allowed the CCNM Manager and CCNM Southern California Interpretive Specialist to discuss the CCNM with parents and other interested visitors. More than 100 pelican headbands were made by children visiting the booth, while more than 300 people of all ages visited the CCNM booth.
 - In August, CCNM participated as an exhibitor at an all day "Celebration of San Diego Parks, Natural Areas and Open Space" on the National Park Service's Founder's Day at Cabrillo National Monument in San Diego, CA. At the CCNM booth, CCNM Monument Manager and CCNM Southern California Interpretive Specialist handed out CCNM and NLCS brochures and CCNM pencils and posters, discussed the CCNM and NLCS, and provided the opportunity for kids to make pelican headbands or borrow binoculars.
 - Recognizing similar outreach goals between the CCNM and NOAA's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, CCNM was able to obtain two small BLM "Take It Outside" grants to assist a couple of the Sanctuary's youth related programs - - Coastal Discovery Center grant to develop, pilot and evaluate a series of four themed, shoreline based "Field Experience Packs" for school and family use (20 packs will be developed in 1st year with the goal of serving schools, local families and visitors to the Coastal Discovery Center (a CCNM Gateway visitor contact station) and MERITO, the Sanctuary's "Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans" bilingual program that provides watershed and marine expertise for underserved students in the Monterey Bay area, to cover environmental education tools and equipment. The grant will fund an undergraduate from the Monterey Institute of International Studies intern program to help expand the service capabilities of the for the MERITO Watershed Academy After-School Program focusing on fifth to eighth grade students.
 - BLM Arcata Field Office obtained a BLM "Take It Outside" Grant to develop interpretive kayak tours in CCNM Trinidad Gateway Area, working with the Trinidad Rancheria and Humboldt Baykeepers to guide small groups on interpretive kayak tours around the CCNM Trinidad Gateway area and Humboldt Bay.
- e. **Interpretation.** In FY 2009, the CCNM Outreach and Partnership Coordinator Marcia deChadenedes took the National Association of Interpretation's 40-hour Certified Interpretive Planner training, with her follow-up certification project beginning development of the CCNM Interpretive Plan in FY 2009. In the interim, the following are the draft "Key Communication Messages" associated with overall communication goals being developed for the CCNM in the Draft CCNM Integrated Communication Plan (2008) [Note: *See Items 4.b, c & d above for overview information regarding participation by the visiting public and the CCNM's interpretive program.*]:
- **Communication Goal 1:** Build awareness with internal and external audiences about the CCNM to achieve the goals and objectives articulated in the mission and vision statements for the monument.

- The California Coastal National Monument includes the unreserved and un-appropriated rocks, islands, exposed reefs, and pinnacles, above mean high tide, out 12 nautical miles along the entire 1,100 miles of the California coast. The CCNM does not include major appropriated or reserved islands, such as Santa Catalina, the Channel Islands, Farallones, and islands in San Francisco Bay, and other rocks or islets either in private or state ownership or reserved under the administration of another federal agency (e.g., U.S. Coast Guard or National Park Service).
- The CCNM mission is to protect and foster appreciation for and stewardship of unique coastal resources associated with the Monument. The RMP focuses on protection of the Monument's unique geologic formations and the unique habitat they provide for animals and plants.
- Protection of the Monument is a key to preservation of the scenic beauty of the California coast.
- The CCNM is an important refuge and migration corridor for marine invertebrates, seabirds and marine mammals. The features are home, haven and habitat for thousands of seabirds, seals and sea lions and species of the rocky inter-tidal zone.
- The CCNM rocks have been used by people historically, and will continue to be used.
- **Communication Goal 2:** Build public appreciation of CCNM partnerships and stimulate community participation in partnerships, gateways, and management.
 - BLM recognizes the importance that coastal communities, tribal governments, agencies, and organizations place on the monument's features. The CCNM is the scenic backdrop for many communities, a tourism draw, and the part of the ancestral lands for many tribes.
 - BLM works with these communities, agencies, tribal governments, and various organizations and others to protect these resources and resource values.
 - BLM and interested communities will cooperate to establish a series of "CCNM Gateways" to create visitor contact points, a sense of community ownership, and a sense of place.
 - Partnerships are critical components for management and protection of the CCNM.
- **Communication Goal 3:** Foster voluntary environmental stewardship of the coastal resources.
 - It is everyone's responsibility to protect these unique and fragile coastal resources.
 - The CCNM is a catalyst for fostering cooperative stewardship of these resources – the features of the CCNM, the surrounding waters, and the mainland features that collectively make up the unique ecosystems of the California Coast.
 - The BLM encourages educators at all levels to use the Monument for study and to instill an environmental ethic in students.

- **Communication Goal 4:** Share consistent messages with the scientific community about the Monument and opportunities for research.
 - The CCNM offers opportunities for scientists to study a wide variety of habitats including “islet bio-geography” that may exist nowhere else.
 - The CCNM encourages research to broaden understanding of the resources needing protection and the appropriate ways to protect them.
 - The CCNM offers opportunities for study of socio-cultural aspects of the Monument (including cultural and historical resources, tourism, and scenic values).

f. Volunteers.

- During FY 2009, the CCNM had a total of 2,228 recorded volunteer hours and 1,509 donated hours. The recorded volunteer hours are from The Sea Ranch Association’s seabird monitoring work (See Item 5.a. below). The donated hours are from hours spent by members of a wide variety of CCNM formal partners participating in CCNM projects, primarily the various CCNM Gateway initiatives. It is the CCNM Manager’s assumption that if we had the time and ability to track this much closer that the number of donated hours among the wide variety of CCNM partners would be much greater.
- The Sea Ranch Association CCNM Stewardship Task Force was a 2009 winner of the BLM’s “Making a Difference” National Volunteer Award, which they received at an Interior Department ceremony in Washington, D.C., on May 14, 2009.

g. Other outreach efforts.

- **California North Coast Geotourism Project.**
 - CCNM priority in FY 2009 was placed on managing the North Coast Geotourism Project. BLM continued to work closely with the National Geographic Society’s (NGS’) Center of Sustainable Destinations and the California Travel and Tourism Commission’s (CTTC) North Coast Tourism Council.
 - In the Fall of 2008, after almost two years of discussion and planning, the implementation of the North Coast Geotourism Project was initiated for the six county region of Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake, and western Marin counties.
 - A geotourism committee consisting of a variety of destination marketers and destination managers from the participating organizations, agencies, and the six counties was organized to work with the CTTC’s North Coast Tourism Council in an advisory capacity for the long-term and initially focus on the development of a Geotourism MapGuide for the region.
 - CCNM’s Outreach and Partnership Coordinator Marcia deChadenedes served as the North Coast Geotourism Project manager and conducted and coordinated a series of information briefings and presentations throughout North Coast region. During this time, the decision was made to switch from the development of a hard-copy map to a web-based, interactive Geotourism MapGuide.

- A three-month site nomination process officially commenced March 1 and ended May 31, 2009, during which Marcia deChadenedes attended dozens of meetings with various chambers of commerce and other organizations (e.g., Sonoma County Tourism Board and Smith River Indian Rancheria) and made dozens of contacts with individuals associated with a wide variety of potential geotourism sites (e.g., bakeries, organic vineyards, historic properties, and bed and breakfast lodgings).
 - On August 20 and 21, 2009, 30 representatives from the six-county North Coast region met in Mendocino, California, and reviewed more than 900 site nominations, developed a geotouristic criteria list, agreed to formalize their relationship through a geotourism charter, and defined the operational tasks related to the development of the regional web-based interactive Geotourism MapGuide. This included identifying the MapGuide's themes and tag-line (i.e., "California's Redwood Coast: "Paradise Untamed").
 - The North Coast Geotourism MapGuide is scheduled to be activated on-line in early January 2010.
- **California Coastal Trail.**
 - CCNM Outreach and Partnership Coordinator worked with Coastwalk California, a CCNM Collaborative Partner, and briefed their board of directors on the concept and benefits of and the process for establishing the California Coastal Trail as a National Scenic Trail.
 - Coastwalk California, with the approval from their State partner, the California State Coastal Conservancy, began pursuing the legislative process to establish the California Coastal National Scenic Trail.

5. Science.

- a. **The Sea Ranch CCNM Stewardship Task Force as "Citizen Scientists."** The major science related initiative for the CCNM in FY 2009 revolved around the monitoring work of The Sea Ranch Association (TSRA) CCNM Stewardship Task Force and use of "citizen scientists."
 - For the third year, using seabird monitoring protocols developed in FY 2007 for use by TSRA Task Force, a year-around monitoring was conducted on three CCNM islets off of TSA properties -- Gualala Point Island, Galleon's Arch, and Black's Point Island.
 - From set monitoring points for each islet and following established protocols, TSRA Task Force recorded seabird populations and activities at least once a month during the non-breeding period from September 1 - March 31 and once a week during the breeding season from April 1 - August 31. In addition, TSRA also conducted select aerial overflights following FWS protocol. TSRA Task Force also maintains the monitoring data (i.e., record sheets, field notes, photographs, etc.) and provides highly competent, quality-checked data to BLM.

b. NLCS Science Funds Work.

- With a small amount of NLCS science fund in FY 2009 and through an assistance agreement with the Mendocino Coast Audubon Society (a CCNM Collaborative Partner), the CCNM was able to have the analysis of the intensive seabird monitoring data recorded by The Sea Ranch Association's CCNM Stewardship Task Force during the FY 2008 breeding season on Gualala Point Island completed and the report submitted to BLM for review.
- In addition, the annual 1996-2008 aerial over-flight monitor data for nesting seabird complexes from Gualala Point Island to Fish Rock were also analyzed and the final report is pending. This was all for the coastline of northern Sonoma and southern Mendocino counties.
- As part of the FY 2008 carry-over project, the inventory for terrestrial plant species on CCNM rocks and seastacks along the Mendocino County coast from the Mendocino Headland to Fort Bragg, conducted by a botanist from College of the Redwood's Fort Bragg campus, was completed. The write-up of the complete species list is still pending, but the inventory did identify a rare and endemic form of Indian Paint-Brush (*Castilleja Mendocinii*).

6. Partnerships & Collaborative Relationships.

a. **Background.** If the CCNM is anything, it is partnerships. Spread along the 1,100 miles of the California coastline and located adjacent to or embedded within many jurisdictions, including other federal and state agencies, counties, municipalities, tribes, and private entities, the only way that the CCNM can be effectively managed is with partnerships with a wide variety of entities. In order to provide some order to large number of partnerships associated with the CCNM, the following three partnership categories have been established [NOTE: *All CCNM partners have a signed memorandum of understanding with the BLM regarding their role and responsibilities related to the CCNM.*]:

- **Core-Managing Partner:** Each of the three "core" agencies- -BLM, California Department of Fish and Game, and California State Parks- -responsible for collaborating in the overall management of the entire CCNM.
- **Collaborative Partner:** An organization, governmental or private, that is interested in collaborating with the core-managing partners in any of a variety of programs, actions, and management elements associated with the long-term management of the CCNM.
- **Steward:** A select entity with ownership and management responsibility for a specific portion of the coast that adjoins part of the CCNM and that is interested in serving as the "steward" for that portion of CCNM.

b. Core-Managing Partners.

- **California Department of Fish & Game** (MOU signed May 31, 2000)
 - Collectively, the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) along with the BLM and California State Parks have the responsibility for the long-term administration and oversight for the entire CCNM and under an MOU agreed to:
 - o Collaborate in the management of the CCNM.

- Authorize appropriate uses with the CCNM.
- Work to preserve CCNM's objects of historic and scientific interest.
- Work on mapping and understanding the resources within the CCNM.
- Work with the public to explain the values of the CCNM.
- DFG's involvement in FY 2009 was very limited due to the State of California's major funding problems.
- **California State Parks** (MOU signed June 5, 2000)
 - California State Parks along with BLM and DFG, as stated above, have the responsibility for the long-term administration and oversight for the entire CCNM and under an MOU agreed to:
 - Collaborate in the management of the CCNM.
 - Authorize appropriate uses with the CCNM.
 - Work to preserve CCNM's objects of historic and scientific interest.
 - Work on mapping and understanding the resources within the CCNM.
 - Work with the public to explain the values of the CCNM,
- State Parks continued to be active participants on the Point Arena CCNM Gateway stewardship committee, and work with BLM on the Trinidad, Pigeon Point, Piedras Blancas-San Simeon, Elk, and Mendocino-Fort Bragg CCNM Gateway initiatives.
- Although severely curtailed due to the State of California's major funding problems, State Parks had a very active representative on the North Coast Geotourism Committee and the participating State Park districts submitted significant number of nominations for key geotourism attractions on the various North Coast State Park units.

c. Collaborative Partners.

- **Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary** (MOU signed 2004) – The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (**NOAA**) Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) covers about 20% of the California coastline, from Cambria in San Luis Obispo County north to outside of the Golden Gate in San Francisco. Under a Letter of Intent signed in May 2002, MBNMS became the CCNM's first "collaborative partner." MBNMS continues to provide office space for the CCNM Headquarters in Monterey, California, and serves as CCNM's main contact with NOAA. MBNMS' Coastal Discovery Center, located on State Parks' W.R. Hearst Memorial State Beach in San Simeon is serving as the CCNM's first "visitor contact station" associated with a CCNM Gateway.
- **PRBO Conservation Science** (MOU signed March 3, 2003) – The premier seabird research group for the Pacific Coast, PRBO serves as a primary partner in working with BLM and

other CCNM partners to identify seabird and other marine life monitoring needs and priorities for the CCNM and develop a long-term strategy for implementing these needs and priorities, when reasonable funding and time are available. Melissa Perkins, Education Director, was named as PRBO's new CCNM Contact.

- **Recreation Fishing Alliance** (MOU signed May 25, 2005) – RFA serves as the CCNM-wide liaison to the California recreational fishing community and recreational fishing organizations. RFA is an active participant in the CCNM Palos Verdes Peninsula Gateway initiative.
- **Trinidad Museum Society** (MOU signed January 31, 2006) – The museum society is an active partner in the CCNM Trinidad Gateway initiative. The museum is serving as the gateway's visitor contact station and contains one of the first CCNM Gateway indoor kiosks. Discussing the development of a CCNM display for the new museum.
- **City of Point Arena** (MOU signed March 16, 2006) – As the first municipality to participate in a CCNM Gateway initiative. The City Mayor continued to be a key coordinator of the CCNM Point Arena Gateway initiative and was key to getting a second Point Arena CCNM indoor kiosk for Arena Cove.
- **City of Trinidad** (MOU signed March 23, 2006) – The city is an active participant in the CCNM Trinidad Gateway initiative with a city councilman serving on the CCNM Gateway stewardship committee.
- **Tsurai Ancestral Society** (MOU signed April 3, 2006) – The TSA is a non-profit organization interested in working for the long-term protection and management of the portion of the CCNM in the vicinity of the ancestral Yurok village of Tsurai and the present-day City of Trinidad, California, and as such is serving as an active member of the CCNM Trinidad Gateway stewardship group.
- **Point Arena Lighthouse Keepers** (MOU signed April 26, 2006) – The PALK is one of the initial members of the CCNM Point Arena Gateway stewardship group, helped develop the “local panel” for the Point Arena indoor kiosk, and placed one of the two Point Arena indoor/outdoor kiosks at the Point Arena Light Station museum, as well having the Point Arena Lighthouse museum serve as the CCNM visitor contact station for the Point Arena Gateway.
- **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service** (MOU signed October 2006) – FWS is a partner in the management of the entire CCNM, including assisting BLM and other CCNM partners with the identification of seabird, pinniped, and other marine life monitoring and research needs and the development of a long-term strategy for implementing these monitoring and research needs. FWS has also agreed share resource data (e.g., seabird colony inventory data) and help BLM develop its capabilities related to oil spill and substance release response and restoration trustee responsibilities, and, in some incidents, to serve as BLM's representative.
- **Humboldt State University Marine Laboratory** (MOU signed March 6, 2007) – HSU Marine Lab participates in the CCNM Trinidad Gateway initiative and agreed to work with the CCNM on research, monitoring, interpretation, and environmental education.

- **Pacifica Chamber of Commerce** (MOU signed June 26, 2007) – The Pacifica Chamber of Commerce agreed to assist with the long-term preservation and administration of the CCNM and its various resources and resource values associated with the CCNM Gateway for the San Mateo-Santa Cruz Coast portion of the CCNM.
- **U.S. Coast Guard** (MOU signed September 17, 2007) – The USCG agreed to assist with law enforcement on the CCNM and on, under, and over the high seas and waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States surrounding the CCNM; Cooperate with BLM in assessing potential BLM participation in the incident command structure during the Coast Guard’s response to oil spills, hazardous substance releases, and other contaminant incidents that affect or may affect the CCNM and its various resources; and work with the BLM on other collaborative initiatives associated with USCG programs (e.g., aids to navigation, land tenure adjustment, and search and rescue) that involve, affect, and/or enhance the protection and management of the CCNM. This year, BLM took the USCG Pacific Coast Division of Engineer up on their offered to digitize the numerous corrections to the CCNM rocks and islands data base and worked with USCG’s contractor to complete this effort.
- **Mendocino Coast Audubon Society** (MOU signed March 17, 2008) – Mendocino Coast Audubon Society agreeing to work with BLM and other CCNM partners to assist with the long-term preservation and stewardship of the CCNM and its various resources along the Mendocino County coast portion of the CCNM, including the Point Arena Gateway and other Mendocino coast CCNM Gateway initiatives.
- **Coastwalk California** (MOU signed April 18, 2008) – Coastwalk (now Coastwalk California) agreed to work CCNM-wide with BLM and other CCNM partners to assist with the long-term preservation and stewardship of the CCNM and its various resources and, among other things, to assist with the various CCNM Gateway initiatives and various interpretation and education initiatives as they relate to the California Coastal Trail.
- **Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy** (MOU signed April 25, 2008) - Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (PVPLC) agreed to work with BLM and other CCNM partners to assist with the long-term preservation and stewardship of the CCNM and its various resources on the Palos Verdes Peninsula portion of the CCNM, including assisting with the planning, development, implementation and management of the CCNM Gateway for the Palos Verdes Peninsula, the first CCNM collaborative partner for this gateway initiative.
- **Redwood Region Audubon Society** (MOU signed May 27, 2008) – Redwood Region Audubon Society agreeing to work with BLM and other CCNM partners to assist with the long-term preservation and stewardship of the CCNM and its various resources along Del Norte County and Humboldt County portion of the CCNM, including assisting the planning, development, implementation and management of the CCNM Gateway initiative for Crescent City and other CCNM Gateways (i.e., Trinidad and Lost Coast) as appropriate.
- **Mendocino County Historical Society** (MOU signed March 6, 2009). The Mendocino County Historical Society signed an MOU in FY 2009 and agreed to work with BLM and other CCNM partners to assist with the long-term preservation and stewardship of the CCNM and its various resources on the Mendocino County portion of the CCNM, including assisting with the planning, development, implementation and management of the CCNM Gateway initiatives in Mendocino County (e.g., Elk, Point Arena, and Mendocino/Fort Bragg) and the historic resources interpretation and education initiatives of the CCNM as it relates to the Mendocino coast.

- **City of Rancho Palos Verdes** (MOU signed March 17, 2009). The City of Rancho Palos Verdes signed an MOU in FY 2009, but has been working with the BLM for the past four years on a number of CCNM actions, including factoring the CCNM in the City's vision planning. With the MOU, the City agreed to work with BLM and other CCNM partners to assist with the long-term preservation and stewardship of the CCNM and its various resources and resource values associated with the CCNM Gateway initiative for the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The City's Point Vicente Interpretive Center services as a CCNM visitor contact station.
- **Moat Creek Managing Agency** (MOU signed May 11, 2009). The Moat Creek Managing Agency, focused on the restoration and preservation of the Moat Creek Watershed and are the managers of the Moat Creek and Ross Creek coastal access sites, signed an MOU in FY 2009. Through the MOU, they agreed to work with BLM and other CCNM partners to assist with the long-term preservation and stewardship of the CCNM and its various resources and resource values associated with the CCNM Gateway initiative for the Point Arena portion of the coast.
- **Humboldt North Coast Land Trust** (MOU signed July 15, 2009). The Humboldt North Coast Land Trust Agency, dedicated to protecting for the public benefit natural beauty and character of the area of the CCNM Trinidad Gateway, signed an MOU in FY 2009. With the MOU, they agreed to work with BLM and other CCNM partners to assist with the long-term preservation and stewardship of the CCNM and its various resources and resource values associated with the CCNM Gateway initiative for the Trinidad portion of the coast.
- **Del Norte County Historical Society** (MOU signed July 16, 2009). The Del Norte County Historical Society Agency signed an MOU in FY 2009 and agreed to work with BLM and other CCNM partners to assist with the long-term preservation and stewardship of the CCNM and its various resources and resource values associated with the CCNM Gateway initiative for the Crescent City portion of the coast, as well as the historic research, interpretation, and education initiatives of the CCNM relate to the Del Norte County coast.

d. Stewards.

- **U.S. Air Force** (MOU signed September 1, 2005) – Serving as the first CCNM Steward with the signing of a MOU in FY 2005, the U.S. Air Force (USAF) is the steward for the 35-mile portion of the California coast off Vandenberg Air Force Base. In FY 2008, the USAF completed the integration of the CCNM RMP into the National Resource Management Plan for coastal and upland portion of Vandenberg Air Force Base.
- **Trinidad Rancheria** (MOU signed September 19, 2005) – As a CCNM Steward, the Cheriae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria, a federally recognized tribe, agreed to serve as the CCNM Steward for a four and a half miles portion of the CCNM adjoining the Trinidad Rancheria lands from just north of the Trinidad Head to the mouth of Little River. The Trinidad Rancheria has been very active participants in the CCNM Trinidad Gateway initiative. They helped develop the Trinidad Gateway brochure and the outdoor kiosk for the Trinidad boat ramp, which is located on Trinidad Rancheria property and associated with their pier and mooring concession. In FY 2009, Trinidad Rancheria printed the CCNM placemats for their restaurant at the wharf and they are now using them at the Seascape Restaurant.

- **Yurok Tribe** (MOU signed July 13, 2006) – The Yurok Tribe, also a federally recognized tribe, serves as a CCNM Steward for the portion of the CCNM within their traditional territory. The Yurok Tribe is a participant in the CCNM Trinidad Gateway initiative and worked on the sub-committees for both the Trinidad Gateway brochure and the Trinidad boat ramp kiosk. They have also continued to work with the BLM on ways of linking the CCNM to their plans for a Yurok Tribal Park System.
 - **The Sea Ranch Association** (MOU signed January 31, 2006) – The Sea Ranch Association (TSRA), an incorporated non-profit homeowners’ organization, serves as the CCNM Steward for the 12-mile portion of CCNM adjoining The Sea Ranch properties along the north end of the Sonoma County coast. TSRA formed the CCNM Stewardship Task Force to handle their stewardship responsibilities. For the third year, the TSRA Stewardship Task Force conducted a 20-day intensive seabird monitoring protocol of Gualala Point Island and a year-around monitoring was also conducted for three CCNM islets off TSA properties (*See Item 5.a.*). The Sea Ranch Association CCNM Stewardship Task Force was also a 2009 winner of the BLM’s “Making a Difference” National Volunteer Award (*See Item 4.f.*).
 - **U.S Navy** (MOU signed November 5, 2007) – The U.S. Navy serves as the Steward for the CCNM rocks and islands off San Clemente Island, San Nicolas Island, and the western side of Naval Base Point Loma, as well as Begg Rock (northwest of San Nicolas Island). The U.S. Navy agreed to cooperate on defining the monitoring and research needs for the CCNM and developing a strategy for implementing the protection, monitoring, and research needs consistent with the Navy’s integrated natural resource management plans. In addition, the U.S. Navy agreed to provide information on existing and future Navy missions, subject to national security concerns, which could impact the CCNM, in order to assist the BLM in developing guidance on managing the CCNM. In FY 2009, BLM was involved in providing input to the draft integrated natural resource management plan for San Clemente Island.
- e. CCNM Gateways.** As for community connections, key to the successful management of the CCNM is the development of effective community involvement and a sense of community “ownership.” The primary means to accomplish this is the establishment and implementation of the series of “CCNM Gateways.” The CCNM Gateways help to bring the monument into focus and serve as a way to link it with local communities and initiatives. Each CCNM Gateway provides a variety of opportunities with a variety of local partners. The CCNM RMP (2005), identified 12 segments of the California coast to serve as the initial CCNM Gateway locations. The current status of each of the 12 initial CCNM Gateways is briefly discussed as follows:
- **Trinidad Gateway** (BLM Arcata Field Office) – This is the most complete and active CCNM Gateway initiative to date.
 - Consisting of an 12 member stewardship group (BLM, DFG, State Parks, City of Trinidad, Trinidad Museum Society, Trinidad Rancheria, Tsurai Ancestral Society, Yurok Tribe, HSU Marine Lab, Coastwalk California, Redwood Region Audubon Society, & Humboldt North Coast Land Trust), they meet quarterly with a variety of sub-committees meeting as needed.
 - The gateway stewardship group has:
 - Developed, printed, and distributed a color glossy multi-fold brochure titled “*Explore the Trinidad Coast*” which serving as the “high-end model” for other CCNM Gateways.

- Designed an outdoor kiosk geared towards small boats and kayaks and focusing on seabird and pinniped disturbance avoidance for the boat ramp at Trinidad Bay (Panels temporarily installed in FY 2008).
 - Developed a CCNM placemat for the Trinidad Rancheria's Seascape Restaurant at the Trinidad pier.
 - In addition, the Trinidad Museum has the first CCNM Gateway indoor kiosk.
 - The gateway initiative has also provided a forum for the discussion of coastal issues and concerns that concern them and to find mutual ways of resolving them.
- **Point Arena Gateway** (Ukiah Field Office) – Covering the area from Alder Creek, north of the City of Point Arena in Mendocino County, and south to Steward's Point in the northern portion of the Sonoma County coast, the CCNM Point Arena Gateway stewardship group elected to focus first on the Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands portion of the gateway area.
 - The current CCNM Point Arena stewardship group consists of the BLM, DFG, State Parks, City of Point Arena, Point Arena Lighthouse Keepers, Mendocino Coast Audubon Society, Coastwalk California, Mendocino Coast Audubon Society, and Moat Creek Managing Agency.
 - A kiosk working group developed the "local panel" for the CCNM Point Arena Gateway indoor kiosk and placed one of the two Point Arena kiosks in the Point Arena Lighthouse museum and one at Arena Cove.
 - In FY 2009, the CCNM Gateway stewardship group completed a "quick and clean" brochure focused on a half a dozen things you can do visiting the CCNM Point Arena Gateway area.
- **Pigeon Point Gateway** (Hollister Field Office) – FY 2007 marked the initiation of the CCNM Pigeon Point Gateway for the San Mateo-Santa Cruz coast; however, it has been put on hold pending the BLM taking title to the upland portion of the Coast Dairies property. A meeting was held with the initial gateway stewardship group member (i.e., BLM, State Parks, and Pacifica Chamber of Commerce) to discuss the gateway concept and starting projects. BLM tagged onto State Parks' contract to develop outdoor interpretive panels for Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park and developed a CCNM panel. In addition, a CCNM general interpretive panel with CCNM brochure racks was installed in at the Pacifica Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center. In FY 2008, State Parks covered the development of a CCNM interpretive panel for Bird Rock off Bean Hollow State Beach.
- **Piedras Blancas/San Simeon Gateway** (Bakersfield Field Office) – The existing cooperative effort between BLM's Piedras Blancas Light Station Project, State Parks, National Geographic Hearst Castle Theater, and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary served as a model for the CCNM Gateway initiative. MBNMS' Coastal Discovery Center on the W. R. Hearst Memorial State Beach has provides the CCNM Gateway visitor contact station and plans are underway to evolve the State Park's current working group dealing with the Hearst coastal property acquisition and the San Simeon State Park plan amendment into the CCNM Gateway stewardship working group, with State Parks as the lead partner. In

addition, CCNM participated with a booth and activity for the public at the Coastal Discovery Center's 2nd annual Ocean Fair.

- **Palos Verdes Peninsula Gateway** (Palm Springs/South Coast Field Office) – The Palos Verdes Peninsula (PVP) is a key location for a CCNM Gateway in Southern California. Although the CCNM rocks in Southern California are smaller and much less numerous than those in the other parts of the CCNM, PVP provides the opportunity to expose a large number of people to the CCNM and its environmental messages. The PVP is strategically located in the center of the Southern California coast (i.e., between Point Conception on the north and the Mexico border to the south) and in the center of the PVP is the City of Rancho Palos Verdes (RPV) with its recently revamped Point Vicente Interpretive Center. BLM has been working with the RPV's Recreation and Parks Department staff, the city planner, and the executive director of the Palos Verdes Land Conservancy (PVLC) to link the CCNM PVP Gateway initiative with the RVP Vision Plan, which ties together recreation, tourism, and open space and sets the stage for signing the CCNM Gateway MOU with the city. To assist with the gateway initiative, BLM developed a simple, inexpensive tri-fold brochure (i.e., the "low end" model) titled "*Six Places to See California Coastal National Monument on the Palos Verdes Peninsula.*" In FY2008, a CCNM Gateway indoor kiosk was placed in the Point Vicente Interpretive Center and, as well, a CCNM wall display was developed for and installed in the interpretive center.
- **Elk Gateway** (Ukiah Field Office) – FY 2008, representatives from the BLM and California State Parks, met with Mendocino Regional Parks Association (MRPA) and Mendocino County Historical Society representatives to discuss the CCNM Gateway concept as it would apply to Greenwood State Beach and the coastal area around the Mendocino County community of Elk. The gateway initiative could easily take advantage of Greenwood State Beach's existing infrastructure (e.g., museum, parking lot, and trails, both to the beach and along the cliffs) for visitor use and focus on the historic aspect of the CCNM (especially the ties with coastal communities, "dog-hole ports", wharfs, and commercial ventures). Developing partnership arrangements with the Mendocino County Historical Society and the MRPA was discussed, as were initiative that could help maintain the quality, economic sustainability, and authenticity of the community of Elk. Also discussed were other local organizations and interests to involve in the gateway initiative and setting up future meetings with the community in order to get their input and participation.
- **Lost Coast** (Arcata Field Office) – The staff for the BLM's King Range National Conservation Area (KRNCA) is taking the lead to develop the CCNM's Lost Coast Gateway Initiative. KRNCA Manager and staff have been discussing options with a variety of existing and potential partners, including investigating opportunities to tie in with visitor center plans in Garberville. The CCNM Lost Coast Gateway initiative provides the catalyst for a collaborative management effort for the entire Lost Coast region and a simple way to link the BLM's newly developing Lost Coast Headlands project to the north with the KRNCA, Sinkyone Wilderness State Park, and the Save-the-Redwood League's Cape Vizciano property to the south. The KRNCA staff is working with a local artist to gather ideas for future CCNM interpretive panels and brochures. Existing partners are BLM, California State Parks, California Department of Fish and Game, Coastwalk California, and Redwood Region Audubon Society, while potential partners include Lost Coast Interpretive Association, Save-the-Redwood League, and Cape Mendocino Lighthouse.
- **Crescent City** (Arcata Field Office) – In FY 2008, at the request of local community leaders, two initial meetings were held in Crescent City with BLM to discuss and plan the initiation of

the CCNM Gateway initiative for the Crescent City area. The meetings included representatives from the City Council of Crescent City, Crescent City Planning Department, Crescent City Planning Commission, Crescent City Chamber of Commerce, Smith River Rancheria, Elk Valley Rancheria, Del Norte Local Transportation Commission, Redwood Region Audubon Society, Del Norte County Historical Society, North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association, California State Parks, and National Park Service. The Crescent City Gateway covers the area from the River to the Oregon border.

- **Mendocino-Fort Bragg** (Ukiah Field Office) – Although initially planned as a CCNM Gateway focused around Mendocino, as Fort Bragg began to plan for how best to incorporate the ex-Georgia Pacific property along the ocean-side portion of the City of Fort Bragg, members from the Fort Bragg economic development group have asked BLM to consider a separate CCNM Gateway for Fort Bragg.
- **Big Sur** (Hollister Field Office) – Plans are to incorporate the CCNM Gateway for Big Sur in with the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary’s management plan implementation once their plan is finalized. The MBNMS plan includes the development and implementation of a multi-agency ecological management action plan for Big Sur. This action plan, at the request of Congressman Sam Farr, is intended to create “one-stop shopping” for the residents of and visitors to Big Sur.
- **Sonoma Coast** (Ukiah Field Office) – This initiative is intended to serve as the gateway to the northern portion of the CCNM. It will be linked closely with the Sonoma Coast State Beach and its existing infrastructure, including a number of pullouts and overlooks that provide excellent opportunities to interpret the CCNM. To date, nothing has been started on this CCNM Gateway initiative.
- **Monterey Peninsula** (Hollister Field Office) – This initiative has the potential of serving as the “flagship CCNM Gateway.” Located in the center of the California Coast and in an area with a wide variety of marine and coastal agencies and organizations, facilities, and features, including the CCNM Headquarters and offices of existing CCNM partners (i.e., MBNMS, DFG, & State Parks), this could be a very unique CCNM Gateway. This will also be a CCNM Gateway that will take a fair amount of time and attention to develop. To date, nothing has been started on this CCNM Gateway initiative.

7. Planning and Business Practices.

a. RMP Implementation.

- FY 2009 was the fourth year for implementing the CCNM RMP. During these four years, the CCNM has been able to do quite a bit with very little, but there is a limit on how long BLM can continue to do this without at least a nominal increase in staffing and basic funding.
- During FY 2009, three *California Coastal National Monument Updates* were issued (i.e., December 31, 2008, pp.8; April 30, 2009, pp.10; and August 31, 2009, pp.7). The *California Coastal National Monument Update* provides the BLM managers, staffers, partners, and others involved and interested in the CCNM an “update” on the implementation of the CCNM RMP, including information on activities, events, meetings, actions, and various accomplishments.

- Although the RMP identified dozens of objectives and management actions that needed to be accomplished over a 15 to 20 year period, six implementation priorities were identified in order to set the management of the CCNM into motion. Each of the six priorities is intended to allow the BLM and its CCNM partners the opportunity to begin the initial implementation of the RMP without too much expense and within the current staffing limitations.
- Together these implementation priorities are intended to establish the framework needed to get started on the basic aspects and tasks required to meet the CCNM's overall goals.
- Each of the six implementation priorities is intended to cover at least one of the CCNM's major aspects and focus. These implementation priorities and their current status are summarized as follows:
 - **Protection** (*Protecting the CCNM resources & resource values*) –
 - As directed by the Presidential Proclamation, protection is the primary reason for the establishment of the CCNM. Although the CCNM Manager has the responsibility of overseeing the management of the entire monument, the five BLM coastal field offices (i.e., Arcata, Ukiah, Hollister, Bakersfield, and Palm Springs/ South Coast) have the day-to-day responsibility for carrying out the protection of their respective portions. In addition, assistance in protection is also provided by BLM's "core-managing partners"- -DFG and California State Parks, as well as many of the CCNM's other partners (e.g., the "Stewards").
 - *Current Status:* Protection continues to be the primary focus but with the least restrictive approach applied first, with limitations implemented on a site-specific basis where known resource impacts exist. Scientific-based processes are used to determine what limits are appropriate; however, without appropriate baseline resource data, our protection actions are seriously jeopardized. To date, no temporary closures or restrictions have been applied within the CCNM; however, as more site characterization information and monitoring data becomes available, seasonal closures or temporary use limitations may be applied. Until then, our protection efforts are severely limited.
 - **Partnerships** (*Developing & maintaining partnerships*) –
 - With a national monument that is as extensive as the CCNM, as well as being connected to so many varied jurisdictions, the opportunities for partnerships are enormous, and an absolute necessity. BLM is continuing to maintain existing CCNM partnerships and establish new ones with other governmental and tribal agencies, academic institutions, and private and non-profit entities in order to effectively administer the CCNM. This effort is helping to support, and is completely linked with all other aspects of CCNM management.
 - *Current Status:* In addition to the core-managing partners, at the end of FY09, there are currently 21 CCNM Collaborative Partners and 6 Stewards (See Section 6.b, 6.c & 6.d & attached spread sheet).

- **Site Characterization** (*Conducting, maintaining, & updating the CCNM Site Characterization Study & Survey*) –
 - This is critical if BLM is to get a handle on what the CCNM actually consists of and what specifically are the important locations, resources, and values that the CCNM is intended to protect. It will also enable BLM to organize the research and monitoring needs, gaps, and opportunities; discuss the CCNM in terms of its physical, biological, and cultural dimensions; begin developing the CCNM's public education and interpretive initiatives; and establish a public accessible web-based site.
 - *Current Status:* In FY 2009, with limited staff and funding focus on other priorities, little was added to the CCNM site characterization data base.

- **CCNM Gateways** (*Establishing & supporting a series of "CCNM Gateways"*) –
 - The "Gateway" initiative is critical to providing a sense of place for the CCNM, bring the Monument into focus, and linking the CCNM with local communities and initiatives. This is also a key initiative for actively involving BLM's five coastal field offices and linking them with CCNM partners.
 - *Current Status:* The first five priority CCNM Gateway initiatives (i.e., Trinidad, Point Arena, Pigeon Point, Piedras Blancas-San Simeon, and Palos Verdes Peninsula) are underway in some form or another, with Trinidad and Point Arena being the most complete and active. The implementation of CCNM Gateways for the Lost Coast, Elk, and Crescent City are currently being worked on.

- **Seabird Conservation** (*Developing & implementing a Seabird Conservation initiative*) –
 - Focusing on seabirds initiates the research and resource monitoring aspect of the CCNM. Of the various coastal resources, seabirds have received the least attention and, therefore, provide the CCNM with the opportunity to make a very useful contribution to further the understanding of California's coastal resources. Since the rocks and small islands of the CCNM provide important habitat to seabirds for roosting and nesting, the CCNM is working to help fill the gaps in the seabird protection along the California coast. This includes working with various CCNM partners to coordinate seabird research, monitoring, protection, and public outreach initiatives.
 - *Current Status:* Using the long-term seabird monitoring protocol that was developed in FY 2008 with assistance from collaborative partners FWS and PRBO Conservation Science, The Sea Ranch Association (a CCNM Steward) conducted the third year of intensive monitoring for the 12-day period for Gualala Point Island. Also in FY 2009, analysis of the 2008 Gualala Point Island seabird monitoring data was conducted by Mad River Biologists, through assistance agreements with the Mendocino Coast Audubon Society and Madron Audubon Society. At the end of FY 2009, the Torch Oil Spill Trustee Council was completing their review of the BLM's draft Scope of Work for the \$1.2 million, five-year Seabird Protection Network South Central California Coast Program associated with the Torch/Platform Irene Oil Spill restoration project.

- **Tidepool Connection** (*Initiating & maintaining a Tidepool Connections network*) –
 - Tidepools gives the CCNM an education and outreach focus on an area that needs attention. This initiative will provide the vehicle to connect BLM with all of current partners and have a tangible goal and purpose that will also connect BLM with a large number of other potential partners. In addition, this initiative moves the CCNM towards its vision to serve as a catalyst for fostering cooperative stewardship of the Monument’s resources and California’s coastal ecosystems.
 - *Current Status:* Limited staffing capability and the other priority workload has prevented any substantive work on this priority.

b. CCNM Business Plan Status.

- Work on the CCNM “Business Plan” was put on hold in FY 2009. This is a plan that was intended to cover the implementation of the CCNM RMP, as well as being used as a communication tool within BLM and an outreach tool to outline BLM commitments and priorities for the CCNM within a five year window.
- Other CCNM priorities (e.g., North Coast Geotourism MapGuide Project) and limited staffing capabilities in FY 2009, resulted in shifting the preparation of the CCNM Business Plan to FY 2010.

c. CCNM Integrated Communication Plan.

- The CCNM took a unique step with the drafting of the CCNM Integrated Communication Plan. This approach was to incorporate the task of developing an environmental education and interpretative plan for the CCNM, as identified in the RMP, with the development of a CCNM Communication Plan, an action normally taken to help develop the messages and get the word out to the public regarding the implementation of the various RMP decisions.
- The CCNM Integrated Communication Plan combines the public affairs, outreach, environmental education, and interpretation management actions and tasks identified in the CCNM RMP and associated with the CCNM RMP implementation into a single activity plan.
- In early FY 2008, with input from both the CCNM Public Affairs Working Group and the CCNM Environmental Education and Interpretation Working Group, a Draft CCNM Integrated Communication Plan was completed; however, in FY 2009 with the evolving concept of a CCNM Business Plan than should include much of what is addressed in the Draft CCNM Integrated Communication Plan, the completion of the final version of a CCNM Integrated Communication Plan was delayed until it can be determined how we want to link it with the CCNM Business Plan.

d. CCNM Permanent & Adjunct Staff.

- At the end of FY 2009, the CCNM full-time staff remains at only two people (i.e., Monument Manager and Outreach and Partnership Coordinator).

- What has worked effectively for the 1,100 mile-long Monument has been the establishment of three CCNM regional coordinators as collateral duties (Currently the cost is pick up by their respective offices). The CCNM regional coordinators are:
 - Northern California Coordinator – Bob Wick (Arcata FO)
 - Central California Coordinator – Marcia deChadenedes (CCNM)
 - Southern California Coordinator – Greg Thomsen (California District DO)
 - In addition, the BLM’s California State Ecologist Jim Weigand has served as the CCNM’s Research and Science Coordinator, also as a collateral duty. His role has been invaluable.
 - In order to deal with the CCNM day-to-day operations and provide needed support to the CCNM, over 30 BLM California employees from the five BLM California coastal field offices, the three BLM California district offices, and the California State Office staffs have been identified as support staff (i.e., “Adjunct Staff”) for the CCNM.
 - Each identified CCNM support staff employee was allocated anywhere from 2% to 20% of his or her time to work on CCNM tasks; however, only about a dozen of these identified employees actually spend their full percentage on CCNM work (This is primarily due to non-CCNM priority work and the fact that most of the funding for their work on the CCNM comes out of non-CCNM funding within their own office’s budget).
 - Again, most of this CCNM work was using non-CCNM funds to cover both their labor and non-labor costs (i.e., funds not allocated to the CCNM). During FY 2009, this amounted to about two and a half work-months worth of support. This is during a time of reduced funding and other priority work with which various offices must deal. In spite of this, the field managers have been very supportive of this effort.
- e. **Budget.** The CCNM budget is relatively simple. The CCNM FY 2009 base funding was \$235,000 with the \$35,000 increase to the base from the NLCS FY 2009 budget increase. The base funding was supplemented by about \$25,000 of one-time funding (i.e., about \$10,000 from NLCS science funds, \$10,000 from “Take It Outside” grants for two projects, and \$5,000 from Challenge Cost Share funds). Therefore, the total funding for the CCNM headquarters operation was about \$260,000. Support and supplemental work related to the CCNM was covered by various BLM California State Office staffs (e.g., travel and GIS), the three BLM California district offices (e.g., public affairs support), and the five BLM coastal field offices (i.e., on-the-ground actions, including installation of interpretive panels, outreach at local events, work related to various oil spill response and restoration projects, and coordination of local CCNM Gateway initiatives). Currently we do not have the ability to access the BLM California budget data for FY 2009. The data has been compiled and is on-hold awaiting approval to covert to FBMS (Federal Budget Management System).

8. Manager's Corner.

a. CCNM Partnerships, CCNM Gateways & Participatory Governance.

- The development and effective maintenance of the CCNM's wide variety of partnerships and the successful implementation of the CCNM Gateways initiative is the key to the long-term success of the CCNM. This is not a simple challenge. It is, however, an opportunity to initiate a coast-wide network of partnership, or series of partnerships, that can coordinate or facilitate and enhance the sharing of information, messages, and research related to the California coast and the land-sea connections.
- It provides the opportunity to help link the coastal initiatives with the marine initiatives, and to do so with a multi-agency, multi-organization, and multi-jurisdictional approach where the partners participate in the management of the CCNM.
- This has the potential of being a very innovative endeavor where a wide variety of partners share in the management of a very unique national monument. In fact, the CCNM can model "participatory governance," one of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy's guiding principles and the first theme of the California Ocean Protection Council's strategic plan.

b. California Coast Geotourism & Networking (Linking the "Destination Managers" with the "Destination Marketing Organizations").

- Geotourism has become an integral part of the CCNM and with the California Coast Geotourism Initiative underway, geotourism will provide the opportunity to enhance our communication channels and expand our networks in a very collaborative way.
- Starting with the Northern California Coast (North Coast) Geotourism Project, we support and are active in helping to maintain a self-sustainable regional North Coast Geotourism Committee that will serve to link the networks of the natural and cultural resource management agencies and organizations (i.e., "destination managers") with the networks of the tourism and travel organizations (i.e., "destination marketing organizations") within California's North Coast region.
- It will be important to ensure that the North Coast Geotourism Committee maintains a reasonable balance between these two groups. It will also be important to ensure clear and effective communication between these two groups and develop the synergy needed to keep it a viable and useful entity that serves the needs of all of its members.
- Using the CCNM and its wide variety of partners as the initial link with the destination managers and using the North Coast Tourism Council (i.e., one of 12 regional tourism councils for the California Travel and Tourism Commission) as the link with the destination marketing organizations, we have a great starting point for the North Coast Geotourism Committee.
- The North Coast Tourism Council has agreed to have the Geotourism Committee serve as a standing advisory committee to the North Coast Tourism Council. Among other things, this networking effort will:
 - Enhance the destination tourism initiatives and programs of all of the participating agencies and organizations.

- Significantly increase the awareness of the California Coastal National Monument (CCNM) and the BLM in the region.
- Link the CCNM Gateway initiatives (7 of the 12 identified in the CCNM RMP) with a larger regional initiative that in turn is potentially part of a larger California coast-wide initiative.
- Increase public stewardship of the region's natural and cultural resources, helps with sustaining local economies and assists in maintaining local integrity and authenticity.

c. Consideration for the Establishment of the “California Coastal National Monument Gateways Network.”

- Taking the California Coast Geotourism Initiative's networking concept a step further, the creation of a “California Coastal National Monument Gateways Network” should be seriously considered.
- This could be modeled after the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network. Through the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998, Congress recognized a growing interest in maintaining and enhancing people's connections with the Chesapeake Bay, as well as the need for furthering stewardship of an internationally significant resource. The Act calls for:
 - A collaborative, partnership network linking independently managed special places around the Chesapeake watershed region by identifying, conserving, restoring, and interpreting the Bay region's natural, cultural, and recreational resources.
 - Identifying Gateway sites for enhancing education of, and access to, the Bay's resources while linking Gateways with trails, tour roads, scenic byways, and water trails, creating an overall network of Chesapeake Bay Gateways and water trails.
 - The National Park Service to serve as the facilitator and coordinator of the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network partnership.
 - Technical and financial support for maintaining the Network and the designated Gateways.
- Although not exactly the same as the Chesapeake Bay, this model could be easily adapted to the California Coast with the BLM and the California Coastal National Monument as the lead. Such an initiative could:
 - Link with the existing CCNM Gateway initiatives and local stewardship committees
 - Tie in neatly with the regional geotourism projects and developing geotourism committees.
- In addition, With these BLM facilitated collaborative efforts already underway and with the CCNM being the only federal protected area designation that extends along the 1,100 miles of the California coastline, BLM is in a position to facilitate an initiative that would be an extremely positive image booster and an amazing opportunity to showcase BLM's

partnership approach and networking capabilities to a large and diverse audience (i.e., local, national, & international).

d. HR 86 Introduced in Congress to Add Orange County Rocks to CCNM.

- As the result of a grassroots effort lead by the Laguna Ocean Foundation, Congressman John Campbell once again introduced a bill to the U.S. Congress that would clean up existing legislation from the 1930s that inadvertently keeps the rocks and small islands off of the shoreline of the Orange County from being included in the CCNM.
- Introduced in the House of Representatives on January 6, 2009, as H. R. 86, the bill stated purpose is to “eliminate an unused lighthouse reservation, provide management consistency by bringing the rocks and small islands along the coast of Orange County, California, [into the CCNM,] and meet the original Congressional intent of preserving Orange County’s rocks and small islands, and for [park, scenic or] other purposes.” The bill would amend the Act of February 18, 1931, entitled „An act to reserve for public use rocks, pinnacles, reefs, and small islands along the seacoast of Orange County, California” that temporarily reserved “all rocks, pinnacles, reefs, and islands having an area, at ordinary [mean] high tide of less than two acres, and located in the Pacific Ocean within one mile of the coast of Orange County, California, . . . pending enactment of appropriate legislation by the Congress of the United States, in the interest of preserving the same for park, scenic, or other public purposes.”
- In addition, the bill would repeal Section 31 of the Act of May 28, 1935, entitled „An act to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to dispose of certain lighthouse reservations, and for other purposes” that reserved “for lighthouse purposes the San Juan [off Dana Point] and San Mateo [off San Clemente] Rocks and the [T]wo [R]ocks in the vicinity of Laguna Beach, off the coast of Orange County, California.” Since these two Acts “reserve” the Orange County offshore rocks, they are currently not included within the CCNM that consists of all the “unreserved and unappropriated” rocks and islands off the California coastline.
- The passage of H.R. 86 would have opened the way for the development of a CCNM Gateway initiative for the Orange County coast, an initiative that various individuals and organizations within the Laguna Beach area have been interested in for a number of years.

By the end of FY 2009, H.R. 86 was scheduled for a hearing before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands on October 6, 2009. [NOTE: *H.R. 86 passed unanimously out of the both the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands and the House Natural Resources Committee and on December 9, 2009, passed the full House by a vote of 397-4 and now awaits consideration by the Senate.*]

e. CCNM Selected as Lead for \$1.2 Million Torch/Platform Irene Spill Seabird Disturbance Restoration Program.

- In June 2008, the Torch/Platform Irene Trustee Council formally selected BLM, as managing agency of the California Coastal National Monument, to serve as the lead entity for the Seabird Protection Network South Coast Chapter for the Torch/Platform Irene Oil Spill restoration effort.

- In this role, BLM would coordinate the implementation of the \$1.2 million multi-agency seabird disturbance restoration project over a five-year period. Almost all of the agencies involved in this effort are currently formal CCONM partners.
- The Torch/Platform Irene Spill was a 1997 oil spill associated with an offshore pipeline operated by the Torch Operating Company. The pipeline transported an emulsion of crude oil and water from offshore oil drilling Platform Irene on the Outer Continental Shelf off of Vandenberg Air Force Base at Point Conception along the Santa Barbara County coastline. The offshore pipeline break caused impacts to a variety of natural resources, including more than 600 seabirds.
- The primary goal of the Seabird Protection Network South Coast Chapter for the Torch/Platform Irene Oil Spill restoration effort is to reduce human-related disturbances to seabirds and improve the survival and recruitment of seabird colonies on the South Central California Coast to achieve seabird populations at baseline (pre-Spill) conditions or better. This goal will be met through the development and implementation of the following three components:
 - Seabird and Human Disturbance Monitoring: Plan development and implementation of monitoring and surveillance to identify and prioritize problem areas/sources of seabird disturbance.
 - Enforcement and Coordinated Management: Purposeful coordination and enforcement of existing laws and regulations concerning seabirds and seabird colonies to reduce disturbances to seabirds at all times of the year.
 - Information and Outreach: Outreach to inform ocean and coastal users identified as having negative impact on seabirds and with messaging to accurately and consistently address the impacts of human disturbances to seabirds, the need to protect seabirds, and the ways that people can prevent and avoid disturbances to seabirds.
- The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS) is currently implementing the Seabird Protection Network as part of the Command Spill Restoration Project and covering an area from Point Reyes in Marin County south to the Castle Rock/Hurricane Complex near Point Sur in Monterey County. The Torch project will entail collaborating with the GFNMS program to extend the Seabird Protection Network south along the coast to the Ventura/Los Angeles county line and out to the Channel Islands.
- The entire fiscal year (FY 2009) was spent negotiating the program's Scope of Work with the Torch/Platform Irene Trustee Council. Work on the project will begin in FY 2010 and run through 2014.

**California Coastal National Monument Photo Gallery
for NLCS Manager's Report – FY 2009**



Sunset behind Camel Rock in Trinidad Bay (Humboldt County, CA)



Button Rock at low tide (Houda Point, Trinidad Bay (Humboldt County, CA)

[NOTE: Images from the CCNM Traveling Photo Exhibit should be posted on the CCNM website before the end of February 2009.]



Common Murre on Flatiron Rock north of Trinidad (Humboldt County, CA)



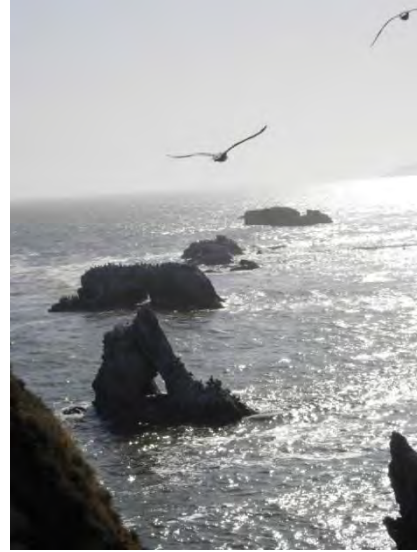
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service biologists removing Common Murre decoys from Devil's Slide Rock south of Pacifica (San Mateo County, CA)



The Sea Ranch CCNM Stewardship Task Force “citizen scientists” and BLM biologists monitoring nesting cormorants (above) and other seabirds as part of an intensive monitoring program conducted primarily on donated time by a very dedicated group of “CCNM Stewards” (Sea Ranch, Sonoma County, CA)



The Sea Ranch Association CCNM Stewardship Task Force was a 2009 winner of the BLM’s “Making a Difference” National Volunteer Award presented at a Washington, D.C. ceremony with Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar shown here speaking to task force co-chair Diane Hichwa (on the left) and BLM Arcata Field Manager Lynda Roush (on the right).



The Brown Pelican uses the CCNM rocks and small islands along the entire California coast for resting and roosting (Photos off Shell Beach within the City of Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo County, CA).



Seals and sea lions, such as this California Sea Lion, are the primary sea mammal found on the CCNM. Harbor Seals are the most common of these pinnipeds, with known colonies on the CCNM from Carpinteria in Santa Barbara County to Crescent City in Del Norte County. Steller's Sea Lions have an active rookery CCNM rocks next to the Castle Rock NWR north of Crescent City and a small colony that has been forming over the past few years on rocks between Trinidad and Patrick Point in Humboldt County. The CCNM rocks and islands provide critical "haul out" and resting areas for thousands of seals and sea lions.



The CCNM is the most viewed of all the Nation's national monuments, but most viewers do not know that they are looking at a National Monument. Millions of people each year drive along the California coast and see or stop to view the ocean and use the rocks as a focal point for handling the ocean's vastness. (Photo is of Pescadero Rock off Pescadero State Beach, San Mateo County, CA)



Art class using a CCNM rock at Pacific Grove on the Monterey Peninsula (Monterey County CA).



CCNM uses existing venues for interpretive signing as here at Whaler's Cove off Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park (San Mateo County, CA)...



...and as "CCNM visitor contact stations," such as the Pacifica Chamber of Commerce (a CCNM Collaborative Partner) Visitor Center at Rockaway Beach in Pacifica, CA.



Although no portion of the CCNM is onshore, at low tide some of the rocks and islets are accessible on foot. BLM is currently considering developing local docent programs to provide limited guide tours in appropriate area. This location may be one such area. It is adjoining a regional park with a trail and stairway to the beach below. Many of this CCNM rocks and islets are much larger than they may appear from onshore. Note the four people and a dog in the center of this photo (Button Rock and Camel Rock off Houda Point Regional Park (Humboldt County, CA)).



Button Rock and Camel Rock from sea level. Note the person standing on the base of Button Rock (Humboldt County, CA).



Meeting in Mendocino, California, on August 20 and 21, 2009, the North Coast Geotourism Committee reviewed the more than 900 site nominations gathered and submitted during the initial phase of developing the North Coast Geotourism MapGuide with the National Geographic Society and coordinated by the BLM's California Coastal National Monument.



CCNM was an exhibitor at an all-day "Celebration of San Diego Parks, Natural Areas and Open Space" on the anniversary of the National Park Service's Founder's Day at Cabrillo National Monument, on August 25, 2009, BLMers handed out CCNM and National Landscape Conservation System brochures and CCNM pencils and posters, discussed the CCNM and NLCS, and provided the opportunity for kids to make pelican headbands or borrow binoculars.



For the fourth year in a row, CCNM had a booth at the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Coastal Discovery Fair held at Randolph Hearst Memorial State Beach in San Simeon on July 11, 2009. At the BLM booth, more than 100 kids colored, cut and assembled pelican headbands.



Pelican headbands and California CCNM brochures were the popular items at BLM's table during the Earth Day Program at City of Los Angeles' Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in San Pedro, California, on April 18, 2009. About 1,000 people of all ages attended the day-long event. At the BLM booth, dozens of kids colored, cut and assembled pelican headbands while their parents discussed the California Coastal National Monument with Monument Manager Rick Hanks and Palm Springs/South Coast Monuments Interpretative Specialist Tracy Albrecht.