

Monitor National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council Meeting
Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras, North Carolina
April 27, 2007

In Attendance: Richard Lawrence (NC Dept. of Cultural Resources), Donald Reynolds (recreational diving), Susan Langley (archaeological research), Mitch Bowman (heritage tourism), Tane Casserley (maritime heritage program), Channing Zucker (citizen-at-large), Krista Trono (MNMS staff), Timothy Runyan (maritime heritage program), Joseph Schwarzer (maritime museums), Wayne Smith (conservation), Claire Peachey (Navy), David Alberg (MNMS staff), Jeff Johnston (MNMS staff), Andrew Shepard (NOAA-NURC), Scott Boyd (Civil War News), Paul Ticco (NOAA-NMSP), Craig Cook (Hatteras Maritime Conservancy) Alex Varouxis (diver), Bill McDermitt (Outer Banks Dive Center), Brian Jones (Seagrace Visions filmmaker), Patricia Raves (NC Aquarium on Roanoke Island), Marcia Lyons (National Park Service), Mary Doll (National Park Service)

Absent: Anna Holloway (The Mariners' Museum), Roger Kirchen (VA Dept. of Historic Resources), Larry Murphy (National Park Service), Robert Neyland (Navy), Mark Wilde-Ramsing (NC Dept. of Cultural Resources), Joanna Wilson (VA Dept. of Historic Resources)

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Welcome

Wayne Smith, *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary (MNMS) Advisory Council (Council) acting Chair called the meeting to order. He began meeting introductions.

Approval of November Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the November 2, 2006 Council meeting are posted on the MNMS Web site. Channing Zucker, Council Secretary, reviewed the previous meeting minutes for accuracy before the meeting on April 27, 2007. There was a motion to approve meeting minutes by Channing Zucker which was seconded by Mitch Bowman. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Swearing in of New Council Members

Joseph Schwarzer, Donald Reynolds and Mitch Bowman recited the National Marine Sanctuary Program Council oath during this meeting.

New Advisory Council Chair Vote

Timothy Runyan, the previous Chair of the Council resigned in early Spring 2007 after taking a job as the acting manager of NOAA's Maritime Heritage Program. Wayne Smith, current Council Vice Chair has been acting as the Chair since Tim's resignation. During this meeting the Council had to make a decision on how to fill the Council leadership vacancy. Susan Langley moved to have Wayne Smith remain acting Chair of the Council until the fall meeting. Joe Schwarzer seconded the motion. The decision to have Wayne Smith remain acting Chair through the Fall 2007 meeting was unanimously approved.

Superintendent's Report

David Alberg provided an update to the Council on a number of topics, summarized below:

- Council Retreat: The Council was on a retreat on Thursday, April 26. They spent the day familiarizing themselves with the Outer Banks of North Carolina community and travel destinations including the National Park Service installations and the North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island.
- *Monitor* Center Opening: The *Monitor* Center at The Mariners' Museum opened on March 9, 2007. The facility opening culminated 30 years of work at the *Monitor* NMS. \$10 million of NOAA funds went into building and designing the Center. NOAA will continue to financially support ongoing conservation efforts of *Monitor* artifacts at The Mariners' Museum. Attendance at The Mariners' Museum and to the *Monitor* Center has more than doubled since this time last year.
- Conservation: All artifacts are stabilized now. Conservation is an ongoing project at The Mariners' Museum. The MNMS staff remain involved in the process.
- New *Monitor* Web site: The *Monitor* NMS Web site was completely updated and officially launched in March 2007.

ACTION: If you have not yet done so please visit the new *Monitor* NMS Web site (<http://www.monitor.noaa.gov>) Please pay particular attention to the pages dedicated to the Advisory Council and provide your bio and photo to Krista Trono for inclusion on the site.

- New Outreach Materials: Council members were given copies of the new *Monitor* NMS brochure and factsheet. These materials are available in bulk if Council members need large quantities for their respective constituent groups.
- Outreach efforts continue: The MNMS has been busy with multiple education and outreach events during winter and early spring 2007 including Society for Historical Archaeology presentations, coordination of the 2nd Mid-Atlantic Remotely Operated Vehicle Competition, in-school programming, visits to Capital Hill (David met with senators and congressional representatives from Virginia and North Carolina). 2 one-page sheets---highlights of education & outreach initiatives in North Carolina and Virginia were provided to Council members and meeting attendees

Education & Outreach one-pagers are included as Appendix A in these meeting minutes.

- July Expedition Update: In July 2006 the MNMS in partnership with the University of Rhode Island and the Institute for Exploration completed a successful expedition to the *Monitor*. The expedition goals were: (1) to provide education & outreach opportunities to the general public from the sanctuary; and (2) to obtain high resolution scan and photographic mosaic of the shipwreck. The data should be processed by June 2007.
- Budget: NOAA has been under a continuing resolution which just ended in mid-April 2007. Summer priorities and support during Summer 2007 include: (1) continued Turret excavation. Four East Carolina University graduate students will assist with excavation during summer 2007; (2) A NOAA Hollings Scholar from Kentucky and an intern from Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary will be assisting with conservation and education efforts this summer as well.
- *Titanic* comes to the MNMS: The MNMS will become the permitting office for *Titanic* in the near future. MNMS staff will issue all permits for United States scientists wishing to visit the site and also have plans to develop a new Web site about *Titanic* and the *Monitor*.
- National Marine Sanctuary Foundation: MNMS has set aside funds at the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation again in 2007 for outreach materials, exhibits at the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum, the North Carolina Aquarium, and the National Park Service, volunteer program support, advisory council meeting support and development of a film on the Graveyard of the Atlantic.
- Future Expeditions: There are plans for an education and research expedition to the *Monitor* in 2008.

Guest Speaker Andrew Shepard

Andrew Shepard, Director of the NOAA Undersea Research Center (NURC) in Wilmington, North Carolina provided an overview of the natural resources located off Hatteras, North Carolina. NURC has been working off North Carolina for 30 years. This year NURC will join NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration---linking archaeology and natural resource study.

Andrew discussed an offshore area known as "The Point". Nicknamed by fisherman, The Point is a complex offshore area of mud canyons, where the Gulf Stream and continental shelf currents converge. The Point is an important place for pelagic fish that use the Gulf Stream, including blue fin tuna and blue marlin and comprises an area known as the Carolina trough, containing 5-6 billion feet of natural gas. The Point is also a productive area for benthic creatures. To the south of The Point scientists have identified deep-sea coral banks. These corals have all the same features as tropical coral reefs, but are located at 800 meters.

Scientists say there are more sea birds here than anywhere else in the North Atlantic. Sargassum is also plentiful at The Point. This marine plant is an important fish habitat, acting as nursery ground for dolphins, sea turtles, jacks and tunas. It's an important feeding habitat for birds, turtles, fishes and mammals.

Andrew also discussed the moratorium on oil and gas exploration off the coast of North Carolina that has been in place since the 1980s. That moratorium ends in 2012. In addition, he identified future research needs including more information on carbon sources, the role of the ocean 'hot-spots' in global climate change and further study of highly migratory pelagic fishes.

Management Plan Review Update

Susan Langley, Council management plan review subcommittee chair provided an update of the current status of the *Monitor* NMS management plan. The current plan is to begin management plan review in 2008 dependent on the budget and the status of management plans at other sanctuaries across the program.

ACTION: Susan asked the MNMS staff to pull together current management plans and other relevant documents (even if in draft form) for review. Susan will review and summarize. Council members should submit goals and objectives to Susan over next months. At fall 2007 meeting the Council will formally identify goals and objectives, laying the groundwork for the MNMS management plan.

Sanctuary Advocacy & Ways to Support Future Efforts

MNMS staff handed out a CD of an overview Power Point presentation on the National Marine Sanctuary Program and the *Monitor* NMS for Council members to use in their constituent group meetings and outreach efforts. Dave encouraged the Council to give presentations on the NMSP and MNMS to their local constituents, dive clubs and others.

ACTION: Please let the MNMS staff know the group size and date of any outreach efforts you complete. Site staff can mail brochures, posters, factsheets and other outreach materials for distribution at your presentation upon request.

Council Members Report Out

During the April 26, 2007 retreat Council members were broken into two groups to discuss 4 topics. Group 1 discussed constituent group building and communication and Group 2 discussed education and partnerships. The purpose of these brainstorming sessions was to provide some internal discussion to allow the Council to move forward on setting formal goals and objectives in anticipation of management plan review and focus efforts for 2007/2008.

Education & Partnerships report by Susan Langley

- MNMS should continue or develop relationships and products for homeschool groups as well as Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts
- There should be a more structured approach to working with the Department of Tourism (driving tours, passport systems, etc.)
- The site should be capitalizing more on existing partnerships (i.e.: National Park Service Centennial, War of 1812 bicentennial)
- Work with the Department of Education (aligned to state and national standards) to get sidebars into the social studies textbooks on the MNMS
- Engage new audiences (i.e.: African American community reenactment groups, watermen's communities, etc.)
- Develop new partnerships (ie: Swedish American Foundation in Philadelphia, dive shops, Museum of the Albemarle)
- Work with maritime museums and aquariums to develop lecture series, programs and other items for their off-season

Constituency Group Building & Communication report by David Alberg

- Publicize the existence of and staff the NOAA field office at the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras, NC
- Data buoy will have new science package installed in summer 2007 to include Doppler current profile and other data. Publicize this buoy to fishermen and divers.
- Develop a new product for dive shops with NOAA logos/messages (i.e.: shipwreck trail card, photo scales, data buoy posters)
- Build relationships with homeowners groups, Kiwanis clubs, and others. Hatteras Realty has a meeting place for visitors
- Give materials to real estate groups to include in their rental packets for the summer visitors
- Shipwreck trail signs
- *Effram Williams* shipwreck. NOAA should dedicate some time to locate this shipwreck. This is an important resource/mystery/hunt that may be of interest to the local community
- Local radio, television spots by a local historian on topics related to the Graveyard of the Atlantic, dive events, etc. 2-minute spots once a week.
- 2008 expedition run by partners including Graveyard of the Atlantic, North Carolina Aquarium, Nauticus, The Mariners' Museum, National Park Service, etc. with a topic related to their mission. Senior scientist at the North Carolina Coastal Studies Institute. Education packet/curriculum guide to supplement the school year.
- Science of the Graveyard publication (NOAA publication) for the average person who is visiting the area/doing research
- Develop program to promote local history (passport/merit badge system/dive atlas)

Andrew Shepard mentioned the technology available to broadcast live from ships during research expeditions. This live feed can be sent back to partners and the

public. He suggested purchasing the broadcasting package to be able to broadcast anytime during any future expedition.

Public Comment Period

Craig Cook described the biological diversity of the marine resources living on the shipwrecks in the Graveyard of the Atlantic.

Alex Varouxis asked if there are plans to extend the boundaries of the sanctuary to include shipwrecks off the coast of North Carolina. David Alberg replied that this is a possibility. The *Monitor* will begin management plan review in 2008 and this topic will be covered during that time.

Brian Jones mentioned the upcoming 150 year anniversary of the Civil War as well as the end of the moratorium on drilling will take place the same year as the sinking of the *Monitor*. He suggested capitalizing on both of these upcoming events.

Bill McDermitt is very excited to hear that NOAA is involved in education and outreach efforts. Bill's dive shop has a group that does exploration. Their group historically protects the wrecks that are located off the Outer Banks; in particular those that are protected by law. They also have a dive club. The wrecks are disappearing at an accelerated rate. They need help setting standards for the shipwreck protection act and conservation statements, dive shops and operators so they can educate their dive community. He reiterated that there is a need to have some top-down regulations/enforcement on shipwrecks off North Carolina.

David Alberg commented that local prosecutors often do not know the rules and regulations related to submerged cultural resource protection. It was suggested that a workshop with North Carolina law enforcement and the Coast Guard to educate them on the rules and regulations might be of use. It was also suggested to develop outreach materials for dive shops with a message of "divers--we need your help" and "the do's and don'ts according to the Abandoned Shipwreck Act."

Alex Varouxis said that they have been very fortunate working with the Coast Guard in the Nags Head area. But it still goes back to educating the divers first.

Bill McDermitt said there is a need to have some outreach materials related to conservation of shipwrecks. He would like to see NOAA develop these jointly with the local community and local divers/dive shops so there is a unified message and look/feel to the informational items.

Susan Langley said that she has worked in Maryland to include a chapter in the marine police training guide on shipwreck protection and conservation. She has also done a lot of training with this group. Outreach to metal detecting clubs is important as well.

David Alberg mentioned the Florida Keys NMS Blue Star program which created a certification program for dive shops that follow a conservation message and distribute sanctuary materials. Bill McDermitt thinks that this would be a very successful program in North Carolina. He thinks that this would be a great local program, but it would really be better to do this nationally. Wayne Smith said he would like to be involved with starting this program.

Richard Lawrence identified the jurisdictions of North Carolina waters. The state protects to the 3-mile limit. Past 3-miles there is no protection effort. Richard agrees with Bill that diver and user education is key.

Marcia Lyons mentioned that once a year the National Park Service invites their local law enforcement/ federal judges/DA officer into the park to update them on the current rules and regulations. This has been a very successful program for the Park Service.

Joe Schwarzer notes that the public is watching treasure hunters on television and the distinction is not being made in the general public. David Alberg said that we should not underestimate the human discovery/mystery factor that plays into archaeology.

Susan Langley said that Maryland has agreed to put an informational brochure (including the laws and a conservation message) with every mailed boat license renewal. She thinks this should be nationally consistent and be glossy and colorful. Boat licenses are granted in North Carolina from the NC Wildlife Resources and VA Dept. of Game & Inland Fisheries.

Tim Runyan mentioned that in 2004 he coordinated a meeting of all federal and state agencies in Alaska that deal with submerged cultural resource laws and management. He thinks it might be time to do something like this in North Carolina, or maybe for the mid-Atlantic region. Richard Lawrence mentioned that a few years ago there was a similar meeting in North Carolina, but it focused specifically on beach wrecks that end up on National Park Service property. He thinks that meeting was successful and would be interested in doing a large group meeting with a larger topic.

Scott Boyd mentioned that there are history groups that would be interested in hearing about the *Monitor* from a historic standpoint. There are also a number of museums relating to Civil War history including the *Hunley* group, the *CSS Neuss*, Hampton Roads Naval Museum and others that might be interested in exhibits and outreach materials. Jeff Johnston mentioned that we are already working with many of these groups.

Meeting Adjournment

Wayne Smith thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for bringing their passion to this meeting. He formally ended the meeting with a hope that meeting discussions will become concrete.

EDUCATION INITIATIVES IN NORTH CAROLINA

Cape Hatteras Secondary School for Coastal Studies Support

The Monitor National Marine Sanctuary continues its support of education initiatives underway at Cape Hatteras Secondary School. To date, staff have offered in-school programming that reached the over 400 enrolled students. In 2007 the staff will:

- Provide professional development opportunities for Middle & High School teachers including a teacher workshop in August 2007
- Offer in-school programming as requested
- Continue to work with partner agencies including the National Park Service, Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum, NC Aquariums, NC Maritime Museums and NC Coastal Studies Institute to meet school needs.

Remotely Operated Vehicles

Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) are used in the National Marine Sanctuaries to investigate natural and cultural resources within our waters. In the Mid-Atlantic, teachers and students are learning about marine technology by designing and building their own ROVs out of PVC pipe and other materials.

North Carolina Workshops

- 2005: 30 teachers from NCCAT group
- 2006: 30 teachers and students participate
- 2007: Workshop scheduled at Cape Hatteras High and Fall teacher workshop

Student Regional Competition

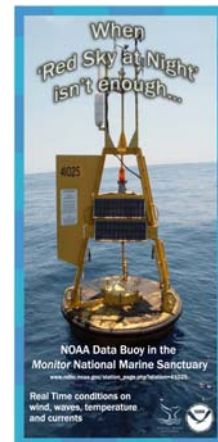
- April 8, 2006: 1st ROV regional held. East Carteret High (Beaufort) participated
- April 21, 2007: 2nd ROV regional to be held
 - Cape Hatteras Secondary, Manteo HS, First Flight HS (Kill Devil Hills) East Carteret HS (Beaufort) and NC School of Science & Math (Durham) confirmed.

Community Festivals & Events

NOAA's Monitor National Marine Sanctuary participates in community festivals and events in North Carolina, Virginia and across the Mid-Atlantic Region. North Carolina events include NC Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT) Seminars, Ocean Exploration Week at the NC Aquarium on Roanoke Island and Hatteras Day at the Docks. In federal fiscal year 2006 we reached over 500,000 people.

Plans for 2007-2008

- NC Center for the Advancement of Teaching Seminar
 - June 11-15, Ocracoke
- Continued support for Cape Hatteras School
 - Hatteras
- Installation of interpretative signage
 - Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, NPS
- Exhibit Installation @ NC Aquarium & continued education support
 - Roanoke Island, NC
- New partnership with NC Maritime Museums
 - Beaufort & Manteo
- Day at the Docks community event
 - Hatteras
- Continued partnership with Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum-exhibits & education programming
 - Hatteras
- New sanctuary education awareness program for charter boat captains and recreational diving community
 - Outer Banks



EDUCATION INITIATIVES IN VIRGINIA

(McLean), Thomas Jefferson
(Alexandria)

USS Monitor Center Opens

The Monitor National Marine Sanctuary and The Mariners' Museum opened the USS Monitor Center, America's premier Civil War attraction, on March 9, 2007. The \$30 million state-of-the-art facility takes the visitor on a journey through time, from the Battle of Hampton Roads to the recovery and conservation efforts still underway in the sanctuary and across the Graveyard of the Atlantic.

- Work closely with The Mariners' Museum education department to create meaningful field trip experiences linked to state standards of learning that teach a variety of subject areas—from history and social studies to English, science and the arts.
- Support Teacher Open Houses and workshops in Spring and Summer 2007 where teachers can familiarize themselves with the new facility and receive valuable lesson plans and activities for use in their classrooms.

Remotely Operated Vehicles

Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) are used in the National Marine Sanctuaries to investigate natural and cultural resources within our waters. In the Mid-Atlantic, teachers and students are learning about marine technology by designing and building their own ROVs out of PVC pipe and other materials. Virginia partners include Nauticus, Old Dominion University, NASA and Langley Air Force Base.

Teacher Workshops

- 2005-2006: 50 participants in 2 workshops
- 2006-2007: 50 participants in 2 workshops

Student Regional Building Competition

- April 8, 2006: 1st ROV regional held
 - 50 students participated
- April 21, 2007: 2nd ROV regional to be held
 - 125 students from across the mid-Atlantic to participate
 - VA teams include Jamestown (Williamsburg), Langley

Community Festivals & Events

NOAA's Monitor National Marine Sanctuary participate in numerous community events across Virginia. In federal fiscal year 2006 we reached over 400,000 students and adults.

Fiscal Year 2007 Events

- Mariners' Museum Park Week
 - Oct. 17, 2006, Newport News
- Yorktown 225th Anniversary
 - Oct. 19-22, 2006, Yorktown
- Oyster Roast
 - Oct. 27, 2006, Newport News
- Battle of Hampton Roads Weekend
 - March 8-10, 2007, Newport News
- Earth Day Wetland Planting
 - April 22, 2007, Newport News
- Jamestown 400th Events
 - Spring 2007, various locations
- Harborfest
 - June 6-12, 2007, Norfolk
- Bay Days
 - Sept. 8-9, 2007, Hampton
- Oyster Festival
 - Nov. 1-4, 2007, Urbanna

In-School Programming

The Monitor National Marine Sanctuary supports enhancing the classroom experience by offering in-school programming related to Civil War History and Ocean Conservation.

Battle of Hampton Roads Program

MNMS continues its partnership with the Hampton Roads Naval Museum to provide a two-part program where students take roles as ironclads and battle in Hampton Roads and then take a mock dive on the Monitor shipwreck.

- Program aligned to 4th & 5th grade standards
- Over 5,000 students reached, ongoing

Plans for 2007

The MNMS will work with local public school teachers to create an interdisciplinary curriculum guide to teach about the Monitor and ocean conservation through a variety of school subjects. This project will be aligned to 6th grade state standards of learning.