



**Monitor National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council Meeting
May 12, 2006**

In Attendance

Krista Trono – Advisory Council and Communications Coordinator
Eric Schindelholz, Conservation – Mariners Museum
Roger Kirchen, VA Department of Historic Resources-Alternate
Tim Runyan, Education Seat
Daniel Basta, Director of NMSP
Elizabeth Moore, NMSP
Ellen Brody, Regional Coordinator of Great Lakes
David Alberg, Sanctuary Superintendent for the Monitor Sanctuary
Anna Holloway, Curator for USS Monitor Center at the Mariners Museum
Richard Lawrence, NC Dept. of Cultural Resources
Joanna Wilson, VA Dept. of Historic Resources
Wayne Smith, Conservation Seat
Jeff Johnston, Program Specialist at Monitor Sanctuary, Historian
John Broadwater, Maritime Heritage Program Manager
June Feggins, Program Support Specialist
Tane Casserley, Maritime Archaeologist
Channing Zucker, Citizen-at-large seat
Robert Neyland, Naval Historical Center
Claire Peachey, Navy Seat-Alternate
Marcie Renner, Conservation @ The Mariners' Museum
Brent Rudmann, Educator
Larry Murphy, National Park Service
Susan Langley, Maritime Archaeological Research Seat

Advisory Council Members Absent

Don Reynolds, Recreational Diving Seat
Mitch Bowman, Heritage Tourism Seat
Mark Wilde-Ramsing, NC Dept. of Cultural Resources-Alternate

General Public in Attendance

Scott Boyle, Free Lance Writer for City of Newport News
Lisa Gentry, Recorder of the Minutes
Daniel Hooker

Welcome from David Alberg

David stated that this group would be only meeting twice a year for now. The hope is that we will work off-line in an informal capacity throughout the year, i.e. email, working groups etc. For future action items, we will try to identify those. Also, from our prospective, what we hope the SAC will help us do.



Our Mission Statement (is not formal but as I see it and at some point let this Council develop one) is to preserve and promote the history of the USS Monitor not only the physical remains of the ship but the story of the ship also to use that artifact and the interest it generates to the public as a vehicle to engage people in a whole variety of other issues that they would have never expected to be engaged in. Those are issues of ocean literacy, environmental awareness, ocean conservation and a number of other things.

Education is a very heavy focus of our activities here. What we are doing as a staff on a daily basis is primarily, at this point at least, until next March we will be very heavily focused on the

U. S. Monitor Center, our partnership with The Mariners' Museum. Our activities fall in three areas: The Conservation of Artifacts, Exhibition Support and Education .

Other activities for the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary include Sanctuary Program Awareness – We promote the work of the Sanctuary Program to help people know what we do;

Science Education – We use the Monitor to engage the public in science education. They go in thinking they will learn about the shipwreck and come out of it learning a little more about the biology of the shipwreck, artificial reefs and most important to us what it means to them and what they can do with that information to become better stewards of the Earth and the oceans; and **North Carolina** To my knowledge, we are the only Sanctuary with its offices in another state from where the Sanctuary is located even though the wreck sits off the coast of NC. Our offices are here in Newport News, VA, appropriately so because of the amount of money, resources and effort that we are putting in the USS Monitor Conservation Project and the Exhibition Project.

When I think about Ocean Education, to me, the real trick here is to get to those people beyond Virginia and North Carolina who say, “That’s neat, but say why do I care, I have never been to the ocean. I am never going to see the Monitor. What does it mean to me?” Through our education efforts, our outreach efforts, our work with our partners, our hope is to address that by showing the inner connectedness between the atmosphere, the oceans between cultural resources, biological and natural resources to bring that home in a very clear way so that people living in Omaha can see that they do have an impact on what’s going out into the ocean.

I hope this gives you insight into what we do and what our mission is. From my perspective, I hope that once this SAC is established it will help us in what will be a very exciting chapter in the Monitor story.

When the Monitor Center opens next year, it will be a turning point, I believe, in the Sanctuary because the facility will serve as a very powerful beacon. All the attention from the Monitor Sanctuary will naturally be drawn to, I think, the Monitor Center because of the work they have done. That is where people will go to come “face to face” with something that normally they would not be able to get to because it is 240 feet under water.



I hope this Body will help us to not only promote the work of the USS Monitor Center but get the word out, promote the work of the Sanctuary and help us find ways that the wreck itself or Sanctuary itself are promoted and we reach out to Americans and help them understand the importance of what still lies off the Coast of North Carolina.

We will be going forward with Management Plan review in 2008. Six months to a year from now, we will begin laying the groundwork for that. The Management Plan Review coming on and the new Sanctuary Advisory Council and the Monitor Center coming onboard is perfect timing to lay out where this Sanctuary will go in the future and your input is critical.

National Marine Sanctuary Program Overview

Danieliel Basta, National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP) Director

- Description of the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation: It's a Non-Profit Foundation dedicated wholly and solely to the National Marine Sanctuaries.
- Overall System of Sanctuaries – What it is about in this country – the big picture.
- The Advisory Council – What they mean to us; how they work and the force that they are.
- Why Maritime Heritage which leads into you. The challenges this SAC will have: What you may do. Where you can go.
- How you may proceed to become a working Body.

It is not necessary to get everything today as there many moving pieces. We are very patient. There is homework you probably will need to do. More material will be sent to you and websites for you to explore.

The President of the United States will eminently make an announcement releasing the draft Environmental Impact Statement and draft Environmental Management Plan on the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, the largest geography on the planet to be set aside as a marine managed area. When the NWHI is designated, National Marine Sanctuary System will manage by far more real estate than all of the national parks and fish and wildlife refugees combined. The only problem is that all of it is underwater.

We are making a major commitment in this program to get additional authorizations for protecting cultural resources. The System has about 25 office locations throughout that country. The System has been building visiting centers and major facilities across this country. This past year was the highest Capitol Investment Appropriation to the program - **16.2M.**

The Program has about 400 employees more than half are contract employees, not civil service. We have a policy that states “it really doesn't matter” we are all equal as we seek to ensure that we all work as one team. There is a varied prolific kind of work force



that supports this program: state workers, industry workers, university personnel or contractors.

We are creating an infrastructure of platforms at sea. The program has just completed building four small voluntary keel up vessels and four more are authorized, funded and about to “hit the streets” for competition.

We are replacing a couple of our other vessels in this program. We will have about 50 vessels in our program. That is a major change for us. That infrastructure requires marine engineers, architects and our operations people. I point this out to you because I want you to understand that it is the “real deal” and that the “real deal” is still forming. We also have two aircraft. We currently have one remaining - the amphibian we use on the West Coast. We have an aircraft program that is under development now. We probably will be doing more with remotely operated vehicles. We are doing work with the Navy in flight demonstrations.

The Program is the premiere education program in the United States on matters of marine. If you add up all the people that work and all the programs being conducted, you will find no other organization in this Country that can claim to have more connected programs than this Program in this System. In Georgia alone, we do 140 distant learning schools. We affect millions of people every year in education programs. We are not only interested in affecting a few million people along the coast - we are interested in affecting 300 million Americans. That is our objective.

Our overall objective is to educate and reach over 300 million Americans. Additionally, we have partnerships with 40 aquariums over the United States. Chattanooga, Tennessee Aquarium opened last year (\$35M aquarium), has a 600 gallon tank and is dedicated wholly and solely to the Flower Gardens. It shows how the water in the Tennessee River winds up in the Gulf of Mexico and affects the Flower Garden.

The Advisory Councils are one of the key elements. The laws do not mandate that we create a Sanctuary Advisory Councils. It says, “You must involve the public directly.” It tells us that we are not only authorized but also charged to effectively involve the public in what we do. You are the last. There are now 14. Note: refer to your directory and you will see your colleagues around the Country.

We were reviewed by the National Academy of Public Administration who just completed their independent review of our program and a draft report has just been released for Industry Review. It concludes all what I have just said. The second piece of work is a study conducted by the University of Michigan School Of Natural Resources that did a survey as a masters level thesis project with a team under excellent leadership from the faculty. They surveyed Advisory Council members, they surveyed staffs. Staff working with Advisory Councils and visited three sites as case studies and presented their findings to your Chair.



NMSP Foundation has been around for six years and has a 5M to 6M dollar budget, and a five to six person staff located in Silver Springs MD. More information can be found at <http://www.nmsfocean.org/board.asp>.

The Monitor Sanctuary Advisory Council members are a major body of talent put together for one shipwreck. This Advisory Council is designed to be something we do not have anywhere in the System. You are experts. You work in the field. You know the big picture. There is more here than meets the eye. It is about the Monitor as the iconic driver of things but it is also about the bigger picture as well that.

Be patient; dare to dare; dare to be bold; dare to look at it through the Monitor as an iconic thing and how to connect things to it and how can we empower it as a driver. Then look past the Monitor. I encourage you to do your homework for a better understanding. Be a little patient in how you relate to other Council. Think strongly about partnerships. It is about partnerships. The only barriers that you have about what you can do are energy and creativity. We will not be barriers. I will attend more of your meetings. I will read a lot about what you are doing.

Maritime Heritage Program (MHP) Overview

John Broadwater, MHP Manager

I would like to add my welcome to the others you received. We all appreciate your willingness to work with us. I know you all are busy but I also know you all share our vision, I was glad to hear what Dan said about this group that you not only confined yourselves to thinking about Monitor issues but about bigger issues. Please do consider it an open invitation to think of yourselves as consultants and advisors to the whole Maritime Heritage efforts.

Maritime heritage resource management with the passage of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act 1972. The [National Marine Sanctuaries Act](#) authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to designate and manage areas of the marine environment with special national significance due to their conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, scientific, cultural, archeological, educational, or esthetic qualities as national marine sanctuaries. We also consider, with a matter of pride, that our Act also mandates that we deal with education, outreach and developing and disseminating information on the technical aspect of ocean research. We like that.

We now have 13 Sanctuaries soon to be 14. We only have two designated specifically for cultural resources. Monitor was the first and the most recent Thunder Bay at Lake Huron.

Our Mission (just in brief): To develop and implement a nationwide program, discovery assessment, long-term protection etc. through partnerships focused on Maritime resources across the entire nation.



Our goals are just what you anticipate: Inventory, locate sites within Sanctuaries, that's part of what we required to do as federal agencies, protection of the resources, get ready work with the Park Services and we want to do research, education and outreach to let people know about the research.

The NMSA provides several tools for protecting designated National Marine Sanctuaries. For example:

- If the Secretary finds a federal action is likely to destroy, cause the loss of, or injure a sanctuary resource, the NMSP is required to recommend reasonable and prudent alternatives that will protect sanctuary resources if implemented by the agency in taking the action. [See section 304(d) of the NMSA.]
- The NMSA also allows the Secretary to issue regulations for each sanctuary designated and the system as a whole that, among other things, specify the types of activities that can and cannot occur within the sanctuary. [See section 308 of the NMSA.]
- The NMSA requires the preparation and periodic updating of management plans that guide day-to-day activities at each sanctuary in furtherance of the goals of that sanctuary. [See sections 304(a) and 304(e) of the NMSA.]
- The NMSA also provides for the assessment of civil penalties up to \$120,000 per day per violation and the assessment of damages against people that injure sanctuary resources. [See sections 306, 307, and 312 of the NMSA.]

This all started with the NMS Act of 1972, which authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to: identify, designate, and manage marine sites based on conservational, ecological, recreational, historical, aesthetic, scientific or educational value within significant national ocean and Great Lake waters.

John provided an overview of maritime heritage resources within the National Marine Sanctuary Program and special projects outside of sanctuary boundaries. More information can be found at <http://www.maritimeheritage.noaa.gov>.

History of the USS Monitor

Jeff Johnston, Monitor National Marine Sanctuary Historian

Jeff provided an overview of the historical significance of the *Monitor*.

- The Monitor has a 144 year history and most famous for the battle between the USS Monitor and the CSS Virginia on March 9 1862
- The archaeological history and the conservation history is a ship that has been at the forefront of this Country
- We generate press all around the world
- Recently had survey in Australia to examine some conservation efforts
- It all culminated in 1975
- Resources have gone outside the borders of the US



- Archival Collections make a great impact of the incredible pieces of history
- There is incredible “stuff” under the waters of VA
- The Monitor focal point started “kicking off” in 1998
- It goes well beyond just going out recovering pieces and parts on the bottom of the ocean. It goes to the preservation of what still remains is on the bottom of the ocean

Conservation

Eric Schindelholz, The Mariners’ Museum, *Monitor* Project Lead Conservator

Eric talked about current and future conservation efforts underway at The Mariners’ Museum.

The partnership aspect of this project is very important to us. We work hand-in-hand with NOAA.

Techniques

- Imagery and laser scanning technology. Laser is being done free of charge.
- Looking at how things corrode and deteriorate
- Handling artifacts in the appropriate manner
- Partnership with ODU

Top Priority Items

- Large survey of all materials, rank the artifact by there rate of deterioration higher ones go first
- The guns desalination process will take several years will be on public view by next year

Education & Outreach

Krista Trono, Communications Coordinator

Krista provided an overview of education and outreach programs and events that have and will take place. The SAC is invited to assist in any and all community events. Krista will send out a calendar of events to the SAC members. Contact her directly for more information.

Current education partnerships

- The Mariners’ Museum
- Hampton Roads Naval Museum- MNMS has worked with HRNM this past school year providing an outreach school program on the Battle of Hampton Roads and the Monitor Sanctuary. We reached over 1000 kids this year.
- North Carolina Partnerships – Specifically right now we are working with the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum, in Hatteras and the North Carolina Aquarium



on Roanoke Island. For them we just assisting with whatever they need at this point. Exhibit development of the entire ocean remotely operated research

- We plan to develop a comprehensive teacher resource guide in 2007 with multiple lesson plans geared to variety of subjects using the *Monitor* as the unifying thread.

Community Events for 2006:

- Norfolk Harbor Fest
- Hampton Bay Days
- Yorktown Day
- Urbanna Oyster Festival
- Delaware Coast Day
- Newport News Folk Life Festival
- Hattares Day at the Docks

July 15-21 the Monitor NMS will work with the Institute for Exploration (IFE) on an expedition to the *Monitor* – Scientifically, the purpose of this expedition will be the first detailed photo mosaic of the site since the 70s. It serves as a better understanding of the site and will also be a good baseline for future monitoring. The expedition will be broadcast live on the internet (www.oceanslive.org) and the public will even have the opportunity to email and instant message questions to the research vessel crew. Live broadcasts will occur July 17&18 at 11am and 2pm and the long broadcast will air July 19 at 2pm. The research vessel will be in port at Nauticus in Norfolk, Virginia on July 21 with public tours available from 11am-3pm.

Archaeology of the Monitor

Tane Casserley, Maritime Heritage Program Maritime Archaeologist

Tane Casserley provided a brief overview of the archeological field work that has taken place at the *Monitor*.

National Advisory Council Information

Overhead Presentation Presented by Elizabeth Moore from the National Marine Sanctuary Program Policy Branch

Purpose of the Council

- The National Marine Sanctuaries Act authorizes but does not require the National Marine Sanctuary Program to establish Councils.
- Sanctuary Advisory Councils are community-based advisory groups established to provide advice to the manager of a national marine sanctuary.
- Councils provide advice on sanctuary operations and projects, and the sanctuary designation process.
- Councils provide advice on sanctuary operations and projects, and the sanctuary designation process.
- The National Marine Sanctuary Program appoints members.



Quick Council Facts

- Full roster of fourteen Council
- First Council was established in 1990, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
- Smallest is 8 members; largest is 27 members
- Over 230 primary members, 160 alternates

Council Composition

- Councils typically have both government and non-government seats Non-government members represent diverse interests including: user groups, stakeholders, business, tourism, education, and research (composition varies from site to site)
- Community participation may be broadened through the establishment of working groups (e.g., education research, conservation, business/tourism) that include members from outside the Council
- Government members can be either voting or non-voting, and typically include government partners at the local, state, and/or federal level

Council Operation:

- Charters serve as the constitution for the Council, and detail functions and operations (approved by Director)
- Councils meet 2 – 6 times a year, more during the management plan review
- All meetings are open to the public and time is provided for public comment. Adequate meeting notice given.
- Council agendas, meeting notes and decisions are posted on websites.

Advisory Council Member Roles:

- Serve as liaison between sanctuary and community
- Create dialogue to examine issues
- Identify partnerships and constituent groups
- Identify issues and resolve conflicts
- Provide input on plans, proposals, products
- Participate in events, activities, programs
- Provide technical and background information
- Validate accuracy and quality of information

Council Members as Volunteers:

- Council members are volunteers, as are community members of Council working groups
- Donation of over 16,000 hours in 2005, worth nearly \$300,000
- True value of Councils measured in ability to provide expertise, strengthen community connections, and build increased stewardship

National Marine Sanctuary Program Commitment to Councils:

- Councils are key to successful stewardship and successful sanctuaries; the National Marine Sanctuary Program has therefore made a very strong commitment to our Councils
- All states have established a Council; any new sanctuaries will establish Councils as an integral part of designation



- We provide extensive support at all levels of the program:
 - ♦ Site support: meetings, retreats, member binders, printing, per diem costs
 - ♦ Regional support: developing; may include regional chairs meetings
 - ♦ National support: national annual meeting, ongoing coordination, national documents such as handbook directory, reports

Success with Councils:

- Increase public and political acceptance, awareness and understanding of the sanctuary
- Facilitate communication between stakeholders and sanctuary staff
- Provide a forum to discuss and act upon locally important and/or challenging resource management issues
- Increase community stewardship and compliance with site goals and objectives
- Expand resources, experience, and skills beyond existing staff
- Develop new partnerships with community

Challenges with Councils:

- Resource intensive (staffing, time, cost)
- Realistic expectations (experience and composition of members, volunteers, workload)
- Getting the “right “ person to effectively represent and communicate to and from their constituency
- Council leadership and direction
- Exceed legal authority

National Marine Sanctuaries Act “101”

Elizabeth Moore from the National Marine Sanctuary Program Policy Branch

Liz provided an overview of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act. The Act is included in the Sanctuary Advisory Council member handbook. Please refer to this document for more information.

Monitor National Marine Sanctuary Council Swearing In/Oath

Lead by Krista Trono, all members of the Sanctuary Advisory Council took the following oath on May 12, 2006 at 3:09 pm:

I (speak name) as a duly appointed member (or alternate) of the Sanctuary Advisory Council established under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act hereby agrees to assist to the best of my ability in achieving the Sanctuary goals, which are:

To enhance resource protection through comprehensive and coordinated conservation and management tailored to the specific resources that compliment existing regulatory authorities;



To maintain the natural biological communities in the Sanctuaries, and to protect, and where appropriate, restore and enhance natural habitats, populations, and ecological processes

To support, promote, and coordinate scientific research on, and monitoring of, Sanctuary resources to improve management decision-making regarding the Sanctuary;

To enhance public awareness, understanding, appreciation, and wise sustainable use of the marine or Great Lakes environment; and

To facilitate to the extent compatible with the primary objective of resource protection, multiple uses of the Sanctuary not prohibited pursuant to other authorities.

I recognize my responsibility to serve as knowledgeable and experienced trustee of the Sanctuary's resources, and always aware and protective of the public interest in those resources. I commit myself to uphold the provisions and standards set forth in the Council Charter, and shall conduct myself accordingly.

Council Charter, Binder and Items of Interest

Krista Trono conducted an overview of information contained in the SAC binders:

Council Elections

Krista stated the election nomination process allows you each to self nominate or you can nominate someone else. There are three members not here right now none of which were interested in nominating themselves for any of the elected positions.

The following individuals were elected to fulfill the following positions of the Sanctuary Advisory Council:

- Chairman – Tim Runyan, for a two-year term.
- Vice Chairman – Wayne Smith, for a one-year term.
- Secretary – Channing Zucker, for a two-year term.

Meeting Wrap Up

- Keep the SAC meetings to two day sessions three times a year including travel time
- Recommend all council members look at other management plan reviews to help aid in keeping the tone of the reviews in one voice
- Public comment period, time must be set aside to address the public's concerns and the comment period has to start at the appointed time
- Find ways to participate in events dealing with Sanctuaries
- Dan mentioned that 6 months is too long between SAC meetings. He recommends holding meetings more frequently or finding a way to engage SAC members during the interim months.



- Dan would also like to have MNMS SAC members visit other sanctuaries during the next 6 months. He suggested Stellwagen Bank, Gray's Reef or Thunder Bay as good places to visit.
 - Larry Murphy mentioned he may be able to visit Channel Islands
 - Wayne Smith can visit Thunder Bay, possibly in June 2006
 - Bob Neyland may be able to visit Gray's Reef. He will also be in Seattle in July. May be able to meet the Olympic Coast staff in Seattle.
 - Channing Zucker may be able to visit Stellwagen

Public Comment Period

Scott Boyd, Civil War News, Fredericksburg, VA requested more updated materials on the Monitor National Sanctuary should be posted on the website, to include some of the historical documents on the Monitor in PDF form for public viewing.

Looking Ahead:

Planning for the Fall *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

November 2-3, 2006 at the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum. Hatteras, North Carolina.

For next meeting:

- Headquarters to provide an overview of management plan review
- Possibly have a SAC or staff member from another NMSP site that have undergone MPR to address the MNMS SAC
- Absent SAC members need to swear in oath at the fall meeting.
- SAC would like an update on conservation efforts, the Monitor Center and the July expedition at the fall meeting.
- SAC members will need name plates and name tags for the fall meeting.
- Council members will be provided a summary of the MNMS budget