Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

November 18, 2016

CINMS Advisory Council Approves Chair Signing System-Wide Letter to NOAA Supporting Enforcement at Sanctuaries
On November 18, 2016 the CINMS advisory council heard updates from Chair Dianne Black about the ONMS enforcement discussion panel she had been leading, and reviewed a proposed letter that the panel had prepared for consideration by all advisory councils. The letter, addressed to the next NOAA Administrator, calls attention to a range of enforcement themes and needs found at multiple sanctuary sites across the system, and focuses on what NOAA and Advisory Councils can do to improve and augment enforcement services. After council members shared their views on how to proceed, a motion was introduced by council member Robert Warner to authorize the Council Chair to sign and send the letter. The motion was seconded by council member Michael Cohen, and subsequently approved by a council vote of 14 yes and 1 no, with 1 abstaining.

Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

November 3, 2016

Advisory Council Charter Amendment Increases Total of Nongovernmental Members to Fourteen
The Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council passed motion to eliminate the distinction in the charter between primary and alternate positions for nongovernmental seats it its November 2016 meeting. All non-governmental alternates became members on December 21, 2016, the date Office of National Marine Sanctuaries Director, John Armor, signed the amendment. As a result, the total number of nongovernmental members of the advisory council increased from seven to fourteen, giving the seven former alternates to ability to vote and be eligible for officer positions. The council’s governmental seats retain the ability to have alternates.

Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

November 14, 2016

The Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council voted to establish a working group to take into consideration climate adaptation strategies for Marin and Sonoma Counties and develop the next phase of implementing living shorelines. This includes identifying the shorelines that are most at risk, and strategies to address those shorelines. This will be a two-part process involving a technical advisory committee (government entities) and a working group (government
entities and public stakeholders). The recommendations will be presented to the Sanctuary Advisory Council and Sanctuary staff, and forwarded to state agencies.

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

October 21, 2016

Advisory Council Supports Plastic Bag Ban
Katherine O’Dea introduced this motion and reviewed the original plastic bag ban resolution approved at the April 21, 2011 MBNMS Advisory Council meeting. The MBNMS Advisory Council reaffirmed support for federal and statewide efforts and local ordinances to ban the use and distribution of single-use plastic bags.

December 8, 2016

Advisory Council Expresses Support for Letter to NOAA Administrator Regarding Law Enforcement
The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council passed a motion to have the Chair sign a letter to the NOAA Administrator regarding law enforcement in NOAA’s National Marine Sanctuary System. All advisory councils in the National Marine Sanctuary System were considering or had taken similar action. The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries planned to consider action on the letter after all of the advisory councils reached decisions about it.

Advisory Council Expresses Support for Letter to Dr. Mary Papazian (President, San Jose State University) Regarding a State-funded Research Vessel
The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council passed a motion to have the Chair sign a letter to Dr. Mary Papazian (President, San Jose State University) regarding a State-funded research vessel. The vessel would be operated by Moss Landing Marine Laboratories and Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Jim Harvey, Director of Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (MLML), introduced the letter and discussed the importance of the proposed research vessel to be operated jointly by MLML and Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO). Recently, the Research Vessel Point Sur, owned by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and operated by MLML, was sold. SIO is also retiring two of their vessels. With the loss of these vessels, there will be no regional class research vessel (RCRV) operating in the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System fleet off California. The proposed RCRV will be designed, built and operated by MLML and SIO in partnership with San Jose State University and the California State University system. The design and construction of the RCRV will be about $20 million. Maintenance and operation costs will be shared by MLML and SIO.

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

No significant advisory council actions taken this quarter.