CINMS Management Plan Update Process

Update for the Sanctuary Advisory Council
March 19, 2021
Status of Management Plan Update Process

Sanctuary Condition Report released July 2019

Public Scoping Period and Scoping Meetings Oct 1-Nov 15, 2019

Management Issue Identification and Prioritization

Develop Draft Management Plan and Environmental Review Documents

We Are Here

Public Review and Comment on Draft Documents

Prepare Final Management Plan, Environmental Review, and Final Rule

Publish Final Management Plan, Final Environmental Review, and Final Rule (2022 target: First Quarter)

Release Draft Management Plan and Draft Environmental Assessment (2021 target: Late Summer)

= public and/or advisory council input

✔ = step complete
Status of Management Plan Update Process

Recent activities:

- Internal preliminary drafting of 10 action plans
- Discussions with council members and subcommittees: recreational fishing seat member, Chumash community seat representatives, conservation seat member.
- Discussions with SAC Climate Change Subcommittee (Marine Debris Subcommittee is next)
- Internal drafting of draft Environmental Assessment
Building the Management Plan: Considerations

- Purpose and role of the sanctuary
- Goal: Keep the sanctuary healthy, productive, and accessible, inspire and support cutting edge marine science, and foster awareness, understanding, and stewardship.
- Jurisdictional authority
- Roles of other entities/agencies

- Available sanctuary tools and resources
- Resource limitations
- Capacities & strengths
- Future-oriented: 5-10 years
- Strategic vs. overly specific
- Public scoping comments
- Advisory council input
15-min Overview of our Action Plans

1. Climate Change
2. Marine Debris
3. Vessel Traffic
4. Introduced Species
5. Zone Management
6. Maritime Heritage
7. Education & Outreach
8. Research & Monitoring
9. Resource Protection
10. Administration & Operations

Photo: Patrick Smith
Climate Change Action Plan

**Goal**: Support activities that help us better predict, mitigate, and communicate climate change issues in the sanctuary

**Strategies**:
1. Address climate resilience and adaptation planning
2. Public engagement and communication
3. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
4. Research, monitor, and track climate change impacts
Goal: Assess, reduce and remove marine debris in the sanctuary

Strategies:
1. Assess the scope and scale of marine debris entering the sanctuary
2. Engage with local partners to remove marine debris and reduce new inputs
3. Raise public awareness; inspire stewardship

Photo: Claire Fackler, NOAA
Vessel Traffic Action Plan

Goal: Reduce the risk of lethal ship strikes by tracking and monitoring vessel traffic & improving cooperation with resource protection zones

Strategies:
1. Track and monitor vessel traffic & use
2. Improve cooperation within vessel speed reduction zones \textit{(voluntary and incentive-based)}
3. Pursue the expansion and/or changed configuration of shipping lanes

Photo: John Calambokidis
Introduced Species Action Plan

Goals:
- Prevent the introduction, spread, and establishment of newly introduced species
- Control or eradicate existing introduced species

Strategies
1. Support research
2. Support detection and tracking efforts
3. Manage invasion vectors and promote prevention
4. For new or established introduced species, assess threat and formulate a response plan
**Zone Management Action Plan**

**Goal:** Assure effective management of sanctuary’s **protective zones**

**Strategies:**

1. Support monitoring, outreach, and enforcement efforts

2. Cooperative administration of the joint State/NOAA marine reserve network, marine conservation areas, and other protective zones
Maritime Heritage Action Plan

Goals:
- Identify, protect, and raise awareness of maritime resources
- Collaborate with and learn from Chumash community partners

Strategies:
1. Strengthen partnership with Chumash community
2. Inventory and assess submerged wreck sites
3. Manage and protect submerged archaeological resources
4. Education & outreach
Goal: Inspire ocean and climate literacy & conservation

Strategies:
1. Advance K-12, college, & informal education
2. Enhance sanctuary interpretation, volunteer and outreach
3. Continue citizen science monitoring
4. Foster and promote sustainable tourism and responsible use in support of the Blue Economy
5. Increase awareness of the sanctuary through media and communication tools
Research & Monitoring Action Plan

Goals:
- Ensure the best available science is accessible to address current and projected sanctuary needs
- Collaborate to support regional and national science priorities

Strategies:
1. Characterize and monitor ecosystem services provided by the sanctuary
2. Interpret and apply science information to meet our research needs (*Research Activities Panel*!)
3. Collaborate with regional and national partners
Resource Protection Action Plan

**Goal:** Evaluate and address adverse impacts from human activities to protect the sanctuary’s natural biological, historic and cultural resources.

**Strategies:**
1. Emergency response
2. Enforcement
3. Technology development
4. Emerging issues
5. Permitting
6. Stakeholder engagement

Photo: Global Diving & Salvage
Operations & Administration Action Plan

Goal: **Provide support** for implementing effective programs

**Strategies:**
1. Manage our budget
2. **Coordinate and support SAC!!**
3. Sanctuary facilities
4. Facilitate field operations
5. Technology/IT needs
6. Provide administrative support
7. Human resources
Discussion
We welcome your feedback!

https://tinyurl.com/sanctuaryplan
Public Comment Period
11:15 - 11:30

Public Attendees: Use the “raise hand” feature to indicate you would like to speak, or enter a comment into the Question Box
Break time!

11:20 - 11:25

tinyurl.com/sanctuaryplan

Photo: NOAA Fishéries
Management Plan Update
Part 2

A. Regulatory Scope (Chris Mobley, Mike Murray)
B. NEPA Environmental Assessment Process (Mike Murray)
C. Council Questions & Discussion
Sanctuary Regulations

- Public scoping comments included a variety of suggestions for sanctuary regulatory changes (e.g., changing boundaries, changing MPA zones, maintaining regulations in place)

- Advisory council reviews and ratings were mixed/divided, with the most support for maintaining current regulations

- Many internal reviews, ONMS leadership briefings, and some agency partner discussions

- Status and strategy moving forward
Compiling with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, and other consultations

- Preparing a Draft Environmental Assessment

**CHAPTER 1**
1.1 National Marine Sanctuary System
1.2 Management Planning Cycle at Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
1.3 Public Involvement in the Management Plan Review Process
1.4 Scope of Environmental Review

**CHAPTER 2**
2.1 Purpose of the Proposed Action
2.2 Need for the Proposed Action

**CHAPTER 3**
3.1 Development of Alternatives
3.2 Description of the Proposed Action (Alternative 1)
3.3 No Action Alternative
3.4 Alternatives Identified but Removed from Consideration

**CHAPTER 4**
4.1 Physical Setting
4.2 Biological Setting
4.4 Marine Uses and Socioeconomic Setting
4.5 Historical and Cultural Setting
4.6 Additional activities and users

**CHAPTER 5**
5.1 Introduction
5.2 Impacts of the Proposed Action (Alternative 1)
5.3 Impacts of No Action Alternative
5.4 Cumulative Effects Analysis

**CONSULTATIONS APPENDIX**
Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.)
Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1361 et seq.)
Essential Fish Habitat
Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1451 et seq.)
National Historic Preservation Act
Executive Order 13175: Tribal Consultation and Collaboration
Thank you for participating!

Upcoming Advisory Council meetings:

- Friday, May 21, 2021 (online)
- Friday, July 16, 2021 (online, or Ventura county)
- Friday, September 17, 2021 (online, or Santa Barbara County)
- Friday, November 19, 2021 (online, or Ventura County)

Questions about the management plan update process?

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