

Monitor National Marine Sanctuary (MNMS)
Sanctuary Advisory Council Planning Meeting
Conference Call
November 8, 2010

In Attendance: Dave Alberg (MNMS Sanctuary Superintendent), Scott Boyd (Citizen-At-Large), Jim Bunch (Recreational Diving), Lauren Heesemann (MNMS Research Coordinator), Joe Hoyt (MNMS Maritime Archaeologist), Jeff Johnston (MNMS Historian), Terri Kirby-Hathaway (Education), Dave Krop (Alternate-The Mariners' Museum), Susan Langley (Archaeological Research), Will Serratelli (Youth Seat), Joe Schwarzer (Maritime Museum), Chris Southerly (NC Dept of Cultural Resources for Mark Wilde-Ramsing), Wayne Smith (Conservation), Doug Stover (Alternate-National Park Service), Shannon Ricles (Council Coordinator), and

Absent: Mitch Bowman (Heritage Tourism), David Conlin (National Park Service), Anna Holloway (The Mariners' Museum), Jay Kavanagh (Recreational and Commercial Fishing), Robert Neyland (US Navy), Lt. Kevin Saunders (US Coast Guard), Mark Wilde-Ramsing (NC Dept of Cultural Resources), and Joanna Wilson (Alternate-NC Dept of Cultural Resources).

Table of Contents

Welcome and Minutes	2
MNMS Superintendent's Report.....	2
SAC Seat Update.....	3
Youth Seat.....	3
Site Evaluation List and Potential Expansion.....	4
Lauren Garske's Presentation.....	4
Conservation	4
Education and Outreach	5
Graveyard of the Atlantic Exhibit Update	6
2011 Field Schedule	6
Scheduling of Next Meeting	6
New and Other Business.....	6
Meeting Adjournment.....	6

Welcome

Wayne Smith, *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary (MNMS) Advisory Council Chair, called the meeting to order. After Mr. Smith's welcoming remarks, roll was called.

Minutes

Terri Kirby-Hathaway made a motion to approve the June 24, 2010 minutes. Scott Boyd seconded the motion and all were in favor. The minutes stand approved.

***Monitor* NMS Superintendent's Report**

Dave Alberg, *Monitor* NMS Superintendent, provided an update to the council on a variety of topics, summarized below:

- Introduction of Lauren Garske
- SRVx—The SRVs is an 85 ft boat that is new to the sanctuary program. It is a regional boat that will be used by the east coast sanctuaries and partnering organizations. The boat operated through July on the Battle of the Atlantic expedition and was a great success. It met all objectives and tested very well. Since July, the boat traveled to Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, Mystic Seaport, CT, and Governor's Island, NY. At Governor's Island, dozens of students, teachers, and dignitaries toured the boat. The boat came to the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries via the University of Washington as a gift. There were no funds spent to purchase it. However, some expenditures were necessary to prepare it as a dive platform for the expeditions. The boat is available for universities and other organizations to use. The cost of using the boat is about \$3500-\$4,000 per day depending on fuel consumption.
- Metals Conference—Mike Overfield had the idea of bringing together a variety of corrosion experts. Mike passed about a couple of years ago, but his dream became a reality in October. About 90 people attended the conference that had three major themes: 1) conservation, 2) unexploded ordinance, and 3) under sea threats, such as ships with bunker fuels. The conference was successful in that it started the dialog on the various works that everyone is doing. Currently, the conference is planned to be held every two years.
- RMS *Titanic*—Dave Alberg and James Delgado, the new director of the Maritime Heritage program, each spent two weeks onboard the ship owned by the RMS *Titanic* company. The purpose of their time onboard was to build trust relationships and to help the company better understand the broader idea of protecting maritime heritage. The sighting of a recent beer can, refrigerator, detergent box 13,000 feet below the surface of the ocean made a huge impact on just how polluted our ocean has become.
- Lauren Heesemann has officially moved to Manteo, NC. She is working in office space provided by UNC Coastal Studies Institute. Lauren will be the face for the program in North Carolina. In two to three years as we begin to move other employees to North Carolina, we will be looking at UNC CSI's new facility built that they hope to have built, as well as office space in Beaufort, NC and the old Coast Guard Station at Pea Island. With a continuing resolution budget possibly going on for many more months, Lauren's presence will make it easier for our office to respond to requests for personnel to attend meetings, etc.

SAC Seat Update

Shannon Ricles explained that the following members will be renewed in their current seat: Jim Bunch (Recreational Diving), Terri Kirby-Hathaway (Education), Susan Langley (Archaeological Research), and Wayne Smith (Conservation). Due to lack of applications, Citizen-at-Large, Heritage Tourism, Economic Development, Recreational and Commercial Fishing, Recreational Diving, and NC Maritime Museum seats will be re-advertised with a new deadline of December 31, 2010 for applications. Will Serratelli, who has served on the MNMS Youth Working Group for the past year, was selected to fill the Youth Seat.

Dave Alberg commented that he is working to choose the second dive seat and asked for input from the council members. Jim Bunch said that he feels the need to have someone from the center of the state, but recognizes that Moorehead City is a very active dive community. Terri Kirby-Hathaway asked if there could be an alternate chosen. Dave said that alternates were only for government seats.

Youth Seat—Dave Alberg introduced Will Serratelli and asked Will to tell the group why he wanted to be involved with the council. Will explained that he has lived his entire life one block from the beach and that he is an avid surfer. Will said that even in his short 16 years, he has seen a dramatic change in the ocean. He feels that it is his generation's duty to protect the ocean from further pollution and damage. He told how he loves to travel up and down the east coast and how impressed he was with the culture in North Carolina and Virginia.

Joes Schwarzer asked about the Economic Development seat. Dave explained that we will be soliciting for the open seats and asked everyone to contribute names if they had ideas for each position. Dave also explained that he sent a letter to North Carolina's Secretary Linda Carlisle asking that she choose a replacement for Richard Lawrence.

Dave said that the MNMS gave \$127K to North Carolina this year. \$55k went for the Queen Anne's Revenge (QAR) project and the balance \$72K went to the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum for exhibit design. There is a need for an additional \$168 k to complete the exhibit design process and we hope to be able to provide the funds this coming year.

Site Evaluation List and Potential Expansion

Dave Alberg explained that in the 1970's, the program pulled together a Site Evaluation List (SEL) of potential sanctuary sites which lead to the creation Channel Islands NMS, Gulf of the Farralones NMS, Gray's Reef NMS, and Florida Keys NMS. Then in the 1980's selection criteria was developed and in 1995, the list was deactivated. NOAA put new sanctuaries on hold until the program could demonstrate that they were meeting all goals. Since then, there have been inquiries in reactivating the list.

Dave said that he would be going to Silver Spring next week to discuss FY11. He hopes to be taking the draft management plan with him. He explained that this will be a big year for the MNMS as we have the draft and final version of the management plan and we will be conducting scoping meetings for public comments in early summer. He reiterated that this is the year for the MNMS staff to produce. It is also time to start holding public meetings, talking with town councils, etc. to start scoping meetings on expansion so as to start the discussion. He said that we

can now begin to provide the public with some models of what expansion might look like so as to get their ideas and feedback. Jim Bunch commented that several folks he has talked with in the community have the foresight to see the need for dive operators to have a strong partner and NOAA is a strong partner. Dave agreed and said that MNMS must demonstrate to the state that we are committed for the long haul. Battle of the Atlantic project helped to support our commitment. Wayne Smith commented that he was very excited to hear what Jim had to say.

Lauren Garske—Lauren is a PhD candidate who is conducting research on how councils and management use scientific information in making management decisions. Lauren explained her background, the project, and what she hopes to accomplish from the research. She also told the group that she will be contacting a select few people from the council for an interview in the near future.

Conservation

Dave Alberg asked Dave Krop to update the council on the conservation efforts. Dave Krop said that the recent purchase of a large-volume reverse osmosis water system is allowing conservators to make additional progress on the significant artifacts in the lab. On November 29, they will start the full-scale deconcretion and disassembly of the 30-ton composite steam engine.

Additional deconcretion and desalination of the turret, and hopefully, a series of 3-Ds, will occur in spring 2011. Both gun carriages are being disassembled for complex treatment; disassembly of one carriage is nearly complete. Conservators continue to treat the Worthington pumps, ventilation engines, and the steam condenser, which is in electrolysis. Organic artifacts are also undergoing treatment. The wool coat excavated from the gun turret in 2002 will likely be finished mid to late December or early next year at the latest. An exact replica of the wool coat is being created by Chris Daly, Historical Clothing Supervisor for the Jamestown Yorktown Foundation. It will ultimately be on display with the conserved pieces of the original coat. Dave Krop said that currently there are seven student interns, mostly from CNU, who are actively involved with and assets to the *Monitor* Project. He also explained that he, Eric Nordgren, and Elsa Sangouard attended the ICOM-CC Metal 2010 Conference in Charleston, SC. They presented a lecture titled, “Disassembly of USS *Monitor*’s Complex Mechanical Components.” Elsa’s poster was also presented and is titled, “Evaluation of Sodium Nitrite as a Corrosion Inhibitor for USS *Monitor* Artifacts.” This poster details the latest research on neutral pH corrosion inhibitors and the use of corrosion inhibitors on composite materials. To keep updated on the conservation efforts, people can visit the new blog site located at <http://www.marinersmuseum.org/blogs/ussmonitorcenter/>. The tentative date for completion of the conservation efforts is hopefully by 2029-2030, pending no changes in staffing or budgets.

Education and Outreach Update

Shannon Ricles updated the council on recent education and outreach efforts since last June. They included

- Dive into Education American Samoa—Shannon and educators from all field sites conducted workshops for over 200 American Samoa teachers. Shannon conducted six workshops during a two-day time period.
- VA Space Grant Consortium GEAR-UP Program—Organized and collaborated with VSGC to provide STEM enhancement opportunities for 150 9th grade at risk students.

- Girl Scout Jamboree—Collaborated with the Colonial Coat Girl Scouts, NASA, and The Mariners’ Museum to offer over 2000 girls and their families an opportunity to learn about maritime heritage, space exploration, and all things ocean.
- Earthfest—Collaborated with NASA and the City of Hampton to host a daylong event focused on protecting and conserving our Earth. Approximately 3,000 people attended the event.
- New York Harbor School—Shannon and Lauren hosted dozens of students, teachers, and dignitaries onboard the SRVx on Governor’s Island, NY.
- VA Beach Public Schools—Conducted ROV workshops with science teacher and helped to organize the teaching of the ROV curriculum to over 300 oceanography and physics high school students.
- Region II Science and Math Coalition—Co-Chaired several regional meetings for the 2010-2011 school year. Shannon will be conducting a presentation in November on the ROV curriculum.
- Tidewater Community College—Working with oceanography classes on building ROVs in their lab classes.
- Newport News Public Schools—Organized collaboration between Newport News Public Schools and The Mariners’ Museum to offer 2200 6th grade students a Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE). Shannon will be providing support to the teachers throughout the year. The Newport News science lead teachers also attended a workshop at the MNMS for an overview of ONMS and MNMS as well as the ROV program.
- Grants—Collaborated on four grant proposals for the NOAA formal education grant with the National Institute of Aerospace, VA Space Grant Consortium, VA Beach Public Schools, and UNC Coastal Studies Institute.
- Voyage to Discovery—Worked with headquarters and summer intern to complete a needs assessment and to develop project goals and objectives for the Voyage to Discovery project.
- Oral History Project—Worked with the summer intern to collect oral histories from folks in Virginia and North Carolina who witnessed the Battle of the Atlantic from our shores.
- Presentations—Jeff Johnston has given numerous presentations to both educators and life-long learners
- Live Dive—Joe Hoyt and Lauren Heesemann participated in Thunder Bay’s Live Dive

Graveyard of the Atlantic Exhibit Update

Jeff Johnston said that an old traveling exhibit has been totally revitalized with new graphic panels and imagery. The final files have been approved and the museum expects to have them installed by the end of the month. Fourteen *Monitor* artifacts were installed at the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in September and two more have completed a re-treatment process and are also ready to be delivered and installed. This year MNMS has contributed \$72K for the exhibit design plan and have requested another \$168K for FY011 for the final funding of the exhibit plan. The exhibit design meetings are scheduled to begin again after the first of the New Year.

Doug Stover said that a new curator has come onboard with the National Park Service and Joe Schwarzer will be working with him on the NPS artifact list to select items for the GOAM exhibits.

Dave Alberg also said that \$40K was spent to create an iPod/iPad tour featuring various maritime heritage sites along the Outer Banks. Ten 1-3 minute video and audio vignettes should be delivered in about two months. The firm producing the videos is a local North Carolina company. The videos will be downloadable from I-Tunes for free.

2011 Field Schedule

Joe Hoyt explained that the 2011 field season has three external funding sources. There is a 100K from the office of Ocean Exploration and Research. Under this grant, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute will be doing some advanced imaging with 3-D high definition cameras of the WWII wrecks, as well as the USS *Monitor*. These images will be produced for a kiosk that will be placed in the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum. Another \$100K annual installment of a \$500K grant will come from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMR—formerly Minerals Management Service). The funds will provide maritime archaeologists the opportunity to use the Atlas AUV to look for potential sites. The AUV is able to cover a large swath (1000 meters) of coverage. They hope to survey about 30 square miles per day. The upcoming fieldwork will most likely be conducted during the months of June and July 2011. The majority of the sites to be surveyed are located off the Cape Hatteras coast. Jim Bunch indicated that this past summer the U-701 had been significantly uncovered and hopes that expedition will take the opportunity to dive on it next summer. Joe said that there would be tech divers again next summer, and they would look at some of the deeper wrecks. However, Joe said that they also want to survey sites that have a higher relevance to the NC community. Jim said that the U-701 is an important site to consider as it is a valuable asset to the community. Other grants that have been secured is \$80K from DOI/American Battlefield Protection Program to work with East Carolina University. This grant will fund a wide area survey/targeted AUV survey. \$70K has been granted from CIOERT to fund AUV work, technical diving, and ship time. \$25K OE mini grant is pending that will fund AUV work if received. There is also a “to be determined” amount provided by MHP to fund ADUS (Martin Dean) survey of wreck sites. Dave Alberg recognized Joe’s efforts in securing the significant funding sources that has allowed this project to continue into its fourth year. Doug Stover asked if ECU was going to be involved again this year and Joe assured him that they would. Doug also said that Steve Sellers, former ECU professor, is now with the National Park Service.

Scheduling of Next Meeting

Shannon Ricles led the group in a discussion of possible dates for the next meeting. It was determined that the second or third week of February looked good for most everyone. It was also decided that the next meeting will be held in Beaufort, NC.

New and Other Business

Susan Langley said that Senator Cardin has expressed an interest in a Maryland sanctuary. However, there is some push to steer the state towards an MPA. Susan also said that she is the co-chair of the 2012 Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) conference and would start coming to folks for ideas and presentations once the 2011 SHA conference concluded in January.

Adjournment