

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Diver Newsletter

Diver
December 2016

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Dear Larry,

At our last meeting in Cambria a letter of support was discussed in August about the nomination process of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary as a component of a World Heritage Site. A World Heritage designation status is defined as: a natural or man-made site, area, or structure recognized as being of outstanding international importance and therefore as deserving special protection. Sites are nominated to and designated by the World Heritage Convention (an organization of UNESCO). The proposed letter of support did not receive a majority vote in favor by the council at the meeting in Cambria. Different points of views were brought up, some sighted concerns about additional tourism could be problematic for the resource load, others were concerned about additional use restrictions. It will again be discussed at the December 8th AC meeting here in Monterey. If you plan to attend please let us know you are in the audience for your input. Please also check out the attached article from the [presentation](#) given by Bill Douros, ONMS West Coast Regional Director at the August AC meeting. Below there is also a link to the World Heritage Website. We would appreciate your thoughts either way.

Join Our Mailing List!

MBNMS will be Recruiting for the following Sanctuary Advisory Council Seats.



MBNMS will be recruiting for the following Advisory Council seats: These seats are on a three year term commitment basis.

Citizen At-Large primary, Citizen At-Large alternate, Diving primary, Diving alternate, Education alternate, Tourism primary and alternate Tourism alternate. More more information Applications Being Accepted after February 1, 2017. Contact:

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Questions about *Verella verella*

One of the most interesting things about *Verella* is that it is best described as a hydroid colony which has flipped itself over. It is unlike a traditional jellyfish (medusa), but rather like the benthic stage of a hydroid. Instead of living attached to rocks on the bottom, its "substrate" is the ocean's surface. These hydroid colonies bud off tiny medusae, little "jellyfish", just like many benthic hydroids do. The medusae live, feed, and reproduce in surface waters (Larson, 1980).

Happy Holidays,

Brian and Phil

Prepared by Brian and Phil, Sanctuary Advisory Council Diving Representatives

World Heritage Proposal

California Current and World Heritage Proposal: Bill Douros gave a presentation on the California Current Conservation Complex (CCCC) nomination as a World Heritage site. Becoming a World Heritage site is the highest level of international recognition. There are currently 1,052 inscribed sites: 814 cultural, 203 natural, 35 mixed. Of the 1,052 sites only 47 sites include a marine component. To become a World Heritage site, a country must develop a tentative list of important natural and cultural heritage sites within its boundaries, a nomination must be submitted to World Heritage Center, the nomination must be reviewed by advisory bodies including the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and lastly the World Heritage Committee meets to determine new World Heritage sites. In July 2016, NOAA forwarded four sites to be considered. In the fall of 2016, expert panels will convene to evaluate the potential sites, the public will be able to review the list of potential sites, and US National Parks Service will send the tentative list to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for consideration. The CCCC includes three national marine sanctuaries (MBNMS, GFNMS and CINMS), two national parks, one wildlife refuge, one coastal monument and numerous state parks including state designated marine protected areas. Benefits of being designated as a World Heritage site include increased tourism, facilitated partnerships with private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and governmental agencies and promote local, regional and national pride in conservation programs, natural resources and the locations themselves.



[World Heritage Website](#)

Size of 2016 Antarctic ozone hole is nearly average



The genus *Veleva*, known as the By-the-Wind sailor, and *Porpita*, known as blue-buttons (not to be confused with blue-bottles), are two interesting Hydrozoans (Cnidarians) that live at the surface of the water. Although they are blue-colored hydrozoans and float partly above the water like the Portuguese Man o' War (*Physalia*), they are not closely related to it or other siphonophores. Even recent literature called them siphonophores, but the nearest Cnidarian relatives are the "Capitate" hydroids.

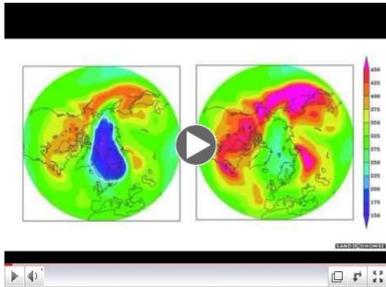
[MORE INFO](#)

Saving Monterey National Marine Sanctuary from golf ball pollution

To our community of watermen and waterwomen, for decades, the ocean has been my playground, a source of adventure and a source of balance. My kids have been raised on the ocean, in the ocean and with the ocean. For our family, the ocean has been the location for countless experiences and family events. It has been the provider of many, many meals. Its wisdom has shaped my children into the bright, authentic young adults they have become.



This year my daughter Alex discovered that thousands of golf balls from Pebble Beach golf course were



For the past 25 years, NOAA and NASA scientists have measured the size and duration of the ozone hole that forms over Antarctica every September. This year falls squarely into the middle of the pack and that's good news. The 2016 Antarctic ozone hole proved to be just about average in every way, matching expectations of researchers who monitor this annual phenomenon. The hole in the Earth's ozone layer that forms over Antarctica each September grew to about 8.9 million square miles in 2016 before starting to recover. At its peak on September 28, the ozone hole extended across an area nearly three times the size of the continental United States. The average area of the hole observed since 1991 has been roughly 10 million square miles. [MORE INFORMATION](#)

Montebello shipwreck added to the National Register of Historic Places



Just south of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's boundary are the remains of the oil tanker *Montebello*. The tanker was sunk by a single torpedo fired by a Japanese submarine during World War II on December 23, 1941; just two weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor. *Montebello* represents

three different aspects of American history: the development and use of a petroleum tanker in times of peace and war; the dependence on maritime commerce to provide fuel for the industrial revolution; and growing United States military presence around the globe during World War II. The *Montebello* shipwreck and remains were added to the National Register of Historic Places on September 27, 2016. The National Register listing provides additional federal protection for the wreck site and the artifacts there. The National Register of Historic Places is the Nation's official list of cultural places considered worth preserving. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a national program to

disintegrating into tiny plastic fragments on her favorite beach here in Carmel. Alex and her friend Jack have spent the year breath-hold free diving to recover the balls. To date, they have removed well over 4,000 balls. They are now getting attention from the local media, Monterey National Marine Sanctuary, local non-profits and Pebble Beach Company.

The following link is the story of how Alex and Jack are making a difference, a first chapter in what will become their amazing story.

[LINK FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

If you feel compelled, please support Alex and Jack by sharing this story with your family & friends, then open a dialog with them about the responsibility we all share in improving the state of our ocean, then take action.

Last, if you would like to help Alex and Jack on their next recovery dive or learn more about what they have learned by this experience, please call or email me!

Wishing you all the best,
Mike 831-241-2500
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Wrecked Sailing Vessel Salvaged in Olympic Coast



NMS On September 6, 2016 the USCG responded to a distress call from the S/V *Soteria*, which was disabled and taking on water in heavy weather. The sailing vessel

was in the sanctuary, 17 nautical miles off the coast. The USCG determined it was not safe to tow the vessel. The USCG in communication with the *Soteria* crew concurred that the three-person crew should be evacuated. It was also determined that a boat-to-boat transfer or helicopter hoist would not be safe. USCG helicopter transferred survival suits to the *Soteria* and the crew abandoned ship one by one and were recovered by the motor life boat. The vessel was abandoned and was later sighted by the sanctuary vessel R/V *Tatoosh* grounded on Sand Point in Olympic National Park on October 9, 2016. The vessel was also reported as grounding on October 8, 2016 by park visitors. The vessel subsequently broke apart, resulting in a debris field north of Sand Point and the original grounding location. Sanctuary staff observed operations by Global Diving & Salvage, which was contracted to remove the debris. Global worked from October 25 through 27, removing the majority of the debris. The loss of smaller private and commercial fishing vessels is an ongoing management challenge for the sanctuary and other agencies. This is further complicated with the remote nature of the coast and no available local vessel assist or salvage companies.

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Exploration Center

coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources. Properties listed in the National Register can qualify for Federal grants for historic preservation. Though adjacent to the southern boundary of MBNMS, the *Montebello* was studied as a potential oil spill threat and as a relevant historical artifact. Since 2003, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and partners have carefully characterized and mapped the shipwreck and surrounding debris. In 2011, it was determined that there is no substantial oil threat from the *Montebello* to California waters and shorelines. The *Montebello* lies in the area proposed to NOAA to become a new national marine sanctuary - Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary. NOAA has accepted the site into its inventory of areas that could one day be designated as a new national marine sanctuary. Learn more about the history, and recent field research of the [Montebello at:](#) The wreckage of the oil tanker *Montebello* provides an opportunity to study archaeological remnants of a unique period of U.S. history. NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuary is committed to preserving historical, cultural and archaeological resources and seeks to increase public awareness of America's maritime heritage by conducting scientific research, monitoring, and exploration and educational programs.

MBNMS SAC REPRESENTATIVES

CONNECT WITH YOUR SANCTUARY

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Advisory Council is your voice to the Sanctuary Management Staff.

If you have questions or input please contact your local representative

Agriculture

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Twenty years after its designation as one of the nation's largest marine sanctuaries, a new state-of-the-art visitor center opened July 23rd, 2012. This Center highlights the spectacular Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Overlooking the ocean, the Sanctuary Exploration Center is located in the heart of the Santa Cruz's famed beach area just steps away from the city's Municipal Wharf. The center features engaging interactive and multi-media exhibits to help visitors explore the sanctuary's remarkable marine environment, as well as their personal role in protecting this special underwater treasure.

Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary has become a premier diving destination, offering some of the most beautiful and pristine diving areas in the country. The City of Pacific Grove, on the Monterey Peninsula, has provided medical treatment to injured divers with its hyperbaric chamber since 1963. While the City of Pacific Grove provides for many of the chamber's operation needs, the diver donations support the continued ongoing operations that offset needed repairs that occur from time to time. Please consider a donation to help this much needed, important resource for the local dive community.

[Donate to the Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber Fund](#)

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Education



[Donate Now!](#)

Donations for the chamber can be made online using a credit card or a PayPal account. The credit card transaction will be securely handled by PayPal and you do not need a PayPal account to make a credit card donation. At the end of the credit card transaction you will be presented with an option to print out a receipt for your donation.

Your tax-deductible donation to the Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber Fund will go directly towards the reopening of the facility and its operations.

Payment can also be made by check mailed to:

Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation
99 Pacific Street, Suite 455 E
Monterey, CA 93940

If you have any questions, please email info@mbnmsf.org

Prepared by Brian and Phil, Sanctuary Advisory Council Diving Representatives

Know your Sanctuary

**Monterey Bay National
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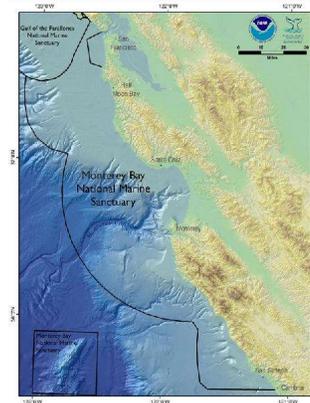
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Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) is a federally protected marine area offshore of California's central coast. Stretching from Marin to Cambria, MBNMS encompasses a shoreline **length of 276 miles and 6,094** square miles of ocean. Supporting one of the world's most diverse marine ecosystems, it is home to numerous mammals, seabirds, fishes, invertebrates and plants in a remarkably productive coastal environment. MBNMS was established for the purpose of resource protection, research, education, and public use of this national treasure. MBNMS is part of a system of 13 National Marine Sanctuaries and one marine national monument, administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

LINKS

Quick Links

[Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary](#)

[Advisory Council Web Page](#)

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There are additional non-voting and supporting members of the Advisory Council. Go to [Advisory Council Complete listing and Information](#).

2016 SAC Meeting Schedule

The 2016 SAC meeting schedule

December 8 - Monterey

For more information go to [2016 Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting dates and Information](#)

[Marine Mammal Center - Moss Landing](#)

[Council Meeting Agendas](#)

[Council Meeting Minutes](#)



Sincerely,

Brian and Phil

MBNMS Advisory Council
Monterey Bay NMS Advisory Council