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To: [Ashcraft, Susan@FGC](#); [FGC](#); [Mastrup, Sonke@FGC](#)
Cc: [Liz Whiteman](#); [Ryan Meyer](#); [Skyli McAfee](#)
Subject: Memo for Tribal Committee Meeting - Central Coast Tribal Engagement
Date: Tuesday, September 09, 2014 11:41:47 AM
Attachments: [Memo-Central-Coast-Tribal-Engagement-Sept2014.pdf](#)

Dear Sonke and Susan,

The Ocean Science Trust is pleased to submit the attached memo, which details our engagement with Central Coast native communities during the Central Coast Marine Protected Area (MPA) monitoring planning process. This memo is intended for inclusion in the Tribal Committee's binders for their meeting on September 17, 2014. It is our sincere hope that it will help to inform the Tribal Committee's scheduled discussion of the draft Central Coast MPA Monitoring Plan.

Please feel free to reach out if we can provide any additional information.

Thank you,
Benét

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Tribal Committee, California Fish and Game Commission

CC: Sonke Mastrup, Executive Director, California Fish and Game Commission
Susan Ashcraft, Marine Advisor, California Fish and Game Commission

FROM: Liz Whiteman, Program Director, California Ocean Science Trust

DATE: September 9, 2014

REGARDING: Engagement with Central Coast Native Communities During Marine Protected Area Monitoring Planning, November 2013-August 2014

The following memo provides a brief summary of outreach and engagement conducted by the California Ocean Science Trust from November 2013-August 2014 in an effort to connect with coastal native communities and individuals in the Central Coast. Ocean Science Trust, in collaboration with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, is leading the process to design and implement marine protected area (MPA) monitoring as a core element of effectively implementing the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA). Monitoring plans are presented to the California Fish and Game Commission for consideration as part of the policy guidance for implementing the MLPA.

Ocean Science Trust is deeply invested in developing mutually beneficial partnerships with Central Coast native communities. Central Coast natives have a long history stewarding the natural resources of the area, and hold an in-depth knowledge about the region and its natural environment. Partnering with native communities that express an interest in collaborating on MPA monitoring helps acknowledge, represent, and value this knowledge in monitoring and management activities. Ensuring that monitoring informs tribal stewardship goals and the management needs of California adds efficiency and cooperation in decision-making efforts, while concurrently respecting and valuing tribal rights and traditions.

Unique to this region, the Central Coast is primarily comprised of non-federally recognized tribes. Each community has a different capacity and desire to engage with MPA monitoring. The first step to effective partnership is learning more about each Central Coast native community while creating the space for tribal leaders to decide how they wish to engage in the MPA monitoring and adaptive management processes. A summary of the outreach and engagement that Ocean Science Trust and Central Coast native communities have conducted is provided below.

Ocean Science Trust welcomes continued dialogue with Central Coast native communities. We respect and acknowledge the importance of developing the most appropriate forums for establishing meaningful relationships, exploring appropriate ways to share mutually beneficial information, and respecting the potential variety in desire and capacity to engage with MPA monitoring throughout the region.

Summary of Central Coast Tribal Engagement

Beginning in November 2013, Ocean Science Trust began reaching out to and engaging with local coastal natives and native communities in advance of the update to the Central Coast MPA Monitoring Plan. Over the course of the past ten months, outreach has been focused on a number of short and long-term objectives, including:

- Establish and strengthen relationships with Central tribal leaders.
- Introduce/re-introduce the Ocean Science Trust team, role, and approach to monitoring.
- Identify common interests related to ocean health, management, and stewardship, and explore how Ocean Science Trust and tribal leaders might collaborate and partner in ocean monitoring initiatives.
- Learn and understand the most appropriate way(s) to engage and communicate with Central Coast natives, including how to foster ongoing relationships and share monitoring information and data as we transition into a next phase of MPA monitoring in the Central Coast.
- Deepen our collective understanding of the role traditional ecological knowledge can play in scientific assessments of ocean conditions and trends.

November – December 2013

- A comprehensive mailing list sourced with information from the Native American Heritage Commission and the California Ocean Protection Council's tribal contact list was developed. The list was shared with select Central Coast tribal liaisons to ensure there were no unintentional omissions.
- A letter was mailed to all coastal native communities requesting an in-person meeting to share information about Ocean Science Trust's work to design and implement MPA monitoring in California.
- Follow up phone calls were made to all tribal contacts; eight (8) native communities/natives expressed an interest in meeting with Ocean Science Trust in early 2014.

January – March 2014

- A letter was mailed to all coastal native communities to notify leadership of a series of public "community gatherings" that were held in mid-January. Follow up phone calls were made to all tribal contacts to confirm receipt of letter. Email addresses were added to a master Central Coast email list, which provides regular email updates on Ocean Science Trust's Central Coast activities.
- Parallel to these public events, Ocean Science Trust met individually with Central Coast native communities that expressed interest, including members of the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash, Yak Tityu Tityu Tribe, Owl Clan, and Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation (see table below).
- During each meeting, discussion topics centered on the objectives outlined above. Those we met with also shared information to help inform the draft Central Coast MPA Monitoring Plan including ideas for how Central Coast natives could be involved in MPA monitoring, identifying specific species and habitats that are important to native people, etc.

- Being mindful of confidentiality, input provided by tribal contacts was summarized and included in the draft Central Coast MPA Monitoring Plan. Highlights of this input are available in a key themes summary document, available on the Central Coast region page on OceanSpaces.org: http://oceanspaces.org/sites/default/files/regions/files/cc_communitygatherings_keythemes_final.pdf.
- This input is reflected throughout the draft Central Coast MPA Monitoring Plan. For example, an overview of the types of partnerships discussed with Central Coast native communities and natives to date is included in Chapter 7 of the Central Coast MPA Monitoring Plan (final draft), *Developing Monitoring Partnerships*, pages 71-72: http://fgc.ca.gov/meetings/2014/aug/Exhibits/12.2_CentralCoastMPA_MonitoringPlan_Aug2014.pdf

April – June 2014

- A letter was sent to all coastal native communities providing details about the opportunity to review the draft Central Coast MPA Monitoring Plan prior to submission to the Fish and Game Commission. Follow up phone calls were made to all tribal contacts to confirm receipt of letter, and additional invitations for in-person/phone conversations were extended.
- While there were no requests for in-person meetings, a number of native communities requested phone conversations with Ocean Science Trust staff to talk through the draft plan and discuss next steps (e.g. Santa Ynez Band of Chumash, Yak Tityu Tityu Tribe). During these conversations, tribal contacts expressed general support for the draft Central Coast MPA Monitoring Plan. There was a great deal of interest in being kept informed of how/when the next phase of MPA monitoring will be conducted in the Central Coast, including opportunities for collaboration and partnership.
- The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash submitted written input on the draft plan, which expressed general support for the plan and a request to remain involved in and informed of next steps.
- Regular check-in calls were conducted with key tribal contacts to keep them informed of Central Coast MPA monitoring activities and beyond. In addition, Ocean Science Trust and the Ocean Protection Council toured of the South Coast and met with the Wishtoyo Foundation at the Chumash Village.

July – August 2014

- Indirect outreach to native communities has continued via the Central Coast email list, providing email updates on Central Coast MPA monitoring activities including information on the recently released Central Coast Monitoring Survey.

Ongoing Engagement

- Ocean Science Trust is working to maintain an open line of communication with Central Coast natives and native communities. Regular phone calls to key tribal contacts continue to provide updates on topics such as the Ocean Protection Council Partnership Plan, the Ocean Protection Council Science Advisory Team nomination process, and the next phase of MPA monitoring in the Central Coast.

Central Coast Native Communities, Outreach List

Beginning in November 2013, Ocean Science Trust has reached out to the Chairpersons and/or primary contacts of the following coastal native communities in the Central Coast region:

Central Coast Native Communities
Amah/Mutsun Tribal Band
Northern Chumash Bear Clan
Big Sandy Rancheria of Mono Indians
Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation
Costanoan Ohlone Rumsen-Mutsen Tribe
Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe
Esselen Tribe of Monterey County
Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan
Northern Chumash Tribal Council
Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation
Owl Clan of the Chumash
Salinan Tribe of Monterey, San Luis Obispo
San Luis Obispo County Chumash Council
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians
Wuksache Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band
Yak Tityu Tityu - Northern Chumash Tribe

The following Central Coast native communities and/or natives have engaged in a dialogue with Ocean Science Trust and expressed an interest in continuing to be informed of MPA monitoring in the region, including opportunities for collaboration and partnership. Ocean Science Trust continues to be in close communication with the majority of these tribal contacts. Contacts in *italics* indicate those native communities/natives Ocean Science Trust has met with directly.

First	Last	Title	Tribal Affiliation
Irene	Zwierlein	Chairperson	Amah/Mutsun Tribal Band
Roberta	Cordero	Member	Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation
<i>Crystal</i>	<i>Baker</i>		<i>Traditional Chumash</i>
Patrick	Orozco	Chairman	Costanoan Ohlone Rumsen-Mutsen Tribe
Fred	Collins	Spokesperson	Northern Chumash Tribal Council
Louise	Miranda-Ramirez	Chairperson	Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation
<i>Vennise</i>	<i>Miller</i>		<i>Traditional Chumash</i>
John W.	Burch	Traditional Chairperson	Salinan Tribe of Monterey, San Luis Obispo
Sam	Cohen	Tribal Admin/Counsel	Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians
<i>Freddie</i>	<i>Romero</i>	<i>Cultural Preservation Consultant</i>	<i>Santa Ynez Tribal Elders Council, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians</i>
<i>Mona</i>	<i>Olivas Tucker</i>	<i>Chairwoman</i>	<i>Yak Tityu Tityu - Northern Chumash Tribe</i>
Haylee	Bautista		Yak Tityu Tityu - Northern Chumash Tribe