

County of Santa Cruz0033

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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November 8, 2000

Agenda: November 21, 2000

Board of Supervisors County of Santa Cruz 701 Ocean Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Implementation Activities - Sanctuary Inter-Agency Task Force Action Plan

Dear Members of the Board:

On April 25, 2000, this office provided your Board with an update on the implementation activities associated with the Sanctuary Inter-Agency Task Force's Action Plan, including the three primary goals sited in the plan: develop a Sanctuary Seal Education and Conservation Program, implement a Sanctuary Scenic Trail network and explore the feasibility of locating a Marine Discovery/Visitor Center in the Santa Cruz area. Staff was directed to report back on or before November 21, 2000 with a follow-up report.

The Sanctuary Inter-Agency Task Force met on November 3, 2000 for a goal-setting session, at which time the primary goals of the action plan were discussed as well as other issues pertinent to the work of the Task Force.

- Sanctuary Seal Education and Conservation Program. As your Board is aware, the first educational project of the Task Force was development of an informational brochure, "Fifty Ways to Get Your Feet Wet", a copy of which was distributed to Board members this past August. The brochure has proved very successful, with over twenty thousand copies distributed to hotels, businesses and educational facilities between the months of July and September. In fact, the brochure is such an effective communication tool that other Marine Sanctuary organizations have expressed an interest in using the same design concept as they develop their own educational materials. The Task Force supports this and other ideas that will help reinforce the Marine Sanctuary as a significant link between coastal communities.
- Sanctuary Trail. The conceptual plan for the wayfinding and interpretation

elements for the Sanctuary Scenic Trail was approved by your Board last spring. Since that time, the Task Force, in collaboration with the County's Department of Public Works and the design consultant, has been working to implement the \$100,000 grant of Transportation Enhancement Activity (TEA) funds that was awarded to the County for the trail project. The project will develop a standards manual for the structural directional and interpretation elements, and as funds allow, will place an element in each participating jurisdiction. It is estimated that the negotiations with CALTRANS and the production of the standards manual with final design element specifications and blueprints will take approximately six months to a year to complete.

• Discovery Center. The need to establish a Discovery Center to serve as both a marine education/interpretive center was addressed in the Action Plan. Clearly, the process for planning and locating such a facility is complex. The Task Force renewed its pledge to support continued efforts to develop such a center within the Santa Cruz area. These efforts are currently being led by State Parks and Sanctuary executive staff.

The Task Force agreed that it was important to focus on these goals as well as other educational opportunities as they arise and to support the individual efforts of the various organizations represented on the Task Force. Your Board will continue to be apprized of any of these activities in which the County is involved.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board accept and file this status report on the work of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Inter-Agency Task Force.

Very truly yours,

SUSAN A. MAURIELLO County Administrative Officer

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cc: Sanctuary Inter-Agency Task Force