

SANCTUARY WATCH

NOAA's Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Designated

INSIDE.....

- Monterey Bay Sanctuary Welcomes Korean Marine Team **2**
- Marine Debris Conference Work Continues **2**
- Stellwagen Bank Sanctuary Names Superintendent **3**
- Oil Company Aids Sanctuary in Buoy Retrieval **3**
- Calendar **4**

Elgie Holstein, DOC Senior Advisor to Secretary Norman Y. Mineta, traveled to Alpena, Michigan on October 7 to join in the designation ceremony of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve, the nation's first Great Lakes sanctuary and the thirteenth in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's network of national marine sanctuaries.



Beach apparatus manned by the Thunder Bay Island lifesaving crew, circa 1900.

Photo: Michigan Maritime Museum

The new sanctuary will protect more than a century of Great Lakes maritime heritage that lies below the waters of Lake Huron in Thunder Bay. From wooden schooners to steel-hulled steamers, a rich array of artifacts from nineteenth century travel and commerce still remain on Lake Huron's floor. Many of the nationally significant shipwrecks have been preserved by the lake's cold, fresh water, some to an exceptional degree.

(Cont'd pg. 4)

Margaret A. Davidson Named NOS Acting Asst. Administrator



Margaret A. Davidson joins NOS after serving as the Director of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coastal Services Center, a national enterprise established to work with NOAA and its partners to bring the latest scientific research and technology to state and local community resource managers.

Before coming to NOAA, Davidson was executive director of the South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium from 1983 to 1995. Prior to that, she served as special counsel and assistant attorney general for the Louisiana Department of Justice.

An active participant in coastal resource management issues since 1978, Davidson earned her J.D. Degree (juris doctorate) in natural resources law from Louisiana State University. She later earned a Master's Degree in marine policy and resource economics from the University of Rhode Island.

The focus of Ms. Davidson's professional work has included environmentally sustainable aquaculture, mitigation of coastal hazards, and impacts of climate variability on coastal resources.

We Welcome Margaret to the helm of NOS.

Photo: Lawrence Charters



Monitor 2000 Mission

The successful *Monitor* 2000 mission ended on August 11 with an impressive list of accomplishments: stabilization of the *Monitor's* collapsing hull; deployment of the Engine Recovery System (ERS); removal and recovery of a 10-foot section of the propeller shaft in preparation for next year's scheduled engine recovery; and recovery of the *Monitor's* 27-1/2-foot-long skeg.

Monitor 2000 was launched with a three-week NOAA mission in April and May designed to generate information about the *Monitor's* engine that would be used during a five-week NOAA-Navy mission in June and July. The NOAA-Navy effort was overlapped by another NOAA mission that began on July 17 and ended on August 11.

During the NOAA-Navy phase, Navy divers placed specially designed frames and bags under the *Monitor's* hull. The pyramid-shaped bags, pumped full of grout or cement, are providing support for the *Monitor's* rapidly deteriorating hull. Also during the NOAA-Navy phase, the 90-ton ERS was deployed and positioned over the engineering space. The ERS consists of the main structure that stands above the wreck, an engine recovery frame to which the engine will be attached for recovery, and an hydraulically operated trolley system for the engine recovery frame. Its deployment is essential to *Monitor* 2001, which will include recovery of the *Monitor's* 30-ton engine.

During the last week of the NOAA-Navy mission, a large section of propeller shaft was removed to facilitate access to the *Monitor's* engine. The *Monitor's* skeg (which supported the rudder and propeller shaft) and an attached lower hull plate were also recovered along with a large section of angle iron, the engine-room floor plate, and another plate segment.

During the second NOAA expedition, four small artifacts were recovered, including part of a brass ring, one-half of a brass hinge, a porcelain drawer knob, and an intact white ironstone water pitcher. The artifacts were transported to The Mariners' Museum in Newport News, VA, for conservation, interpretation, and eventual exhibition. Sponsors

and participants in *Monitor* 2000 included NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program, the US Navy, the Cambrian Foundation, the National Undersea Research Center/University of North Carolina at Wilmington, The Mariners' Museum, Oceaneering Technologies, Inc., Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program, Newport News Shipbuilding, National Geographic Society, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution, US Coast Guard, the Maritime Studies Program at East Carolina University, Hatteras Landing Marina, and Sartek Industries, Inc.

—Dina Hill

Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary Welcomes Korean Marine Team

The Korean Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) Capacity-Building Team—15 government officials from the Korea's Ministries of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Environment, Construction and Transportation, and Government Administration and Home Affairs—visited Hawaii and California from August 2-15, 2000 on a fact-finding mission to learn more about U.S. marine protection strategies.

During their visit to the Monterey Bay Sanctuary, the team learned more about MPA management and Hawaii and California's experiences with coastal zone management. The Korean representatives were also interested in learning more about advanced U.S. coastal zone management methods and measures that could be applicable to the Korean coastal zone management strategies.

—Brady Phillips

Marine Debris Conference Work Continues Through Collaboration

Discussions at the NOAA sponsored, International Marine Debris Conference (Aug. 6-11) in Honolulu, Hawaii on ways to address and mitigate damage to coral reefs from derelict fishing gear and marine debris will continue among conference participants. NOAA, the State of Hawaii, and the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council agreed to continue efforts at multi-agency cooperative partnerships and

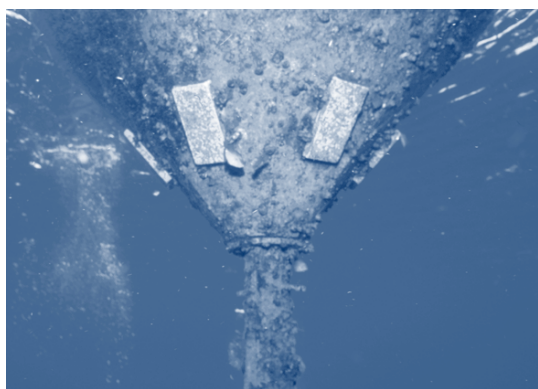
coordination. Quarterly meetings and enhancements to the marine debris website will facilitate a virtual community for meaningful information exchange and cooperation on cleaning up the ocean environment.

—Lisa Symons

Long time Partner Aids Sanctuary with Wayward Buoy on Coral Bank

A drifting wayward buoy that tangled up on the East Flower Garden Bank coral reef was removed recently without cost to the sanctuary through the efforts of a long time partner of the Flower Garden National Marine Sanctuary.

The anchor-handling vessel *Sea Leader*, on contract to BP Amoco, recovered the buoy, along with about 50' of 6" chain and 200' of dual 1-1/2" cable. They reported that the buoy is one typically used to temporarily mark abandoned well heads to warn other vessels of bottom obstructions until all the equipment is removed from the site. No identifying markings were found on the buoy—a violation of Minerals Management Service's regulations—so its owner cannot be determined at this time.



Standby buoy retrieved from the East Flower Garden Bank.

Photo: G.P. Schmahl/FGBNMS

The bank contains luxuriant coral growth with up to 40-50% coral cover, at a depth of 140 feet in this area. BP Amoco recovered the buoy for no charge to the Sanctuary. It was fortunate that as this incident was happening, we were on our "Industry Cruise,"

and had a number of oil industry representatives on board. Special thanks to Chris Brandes and Russell Putt of BP Amoco who made the initial contacts to make this happen, and to Keith Hayles, offshore logistics coordinator, who worked with me to facilitate the recovery.

—G.P. Schmahl

New Superintendent for Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary

Craig Dixon MacDonald, former Chief of the Ocean Resources Branch in Hawaii's Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism was recently named Superintendent of Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary off Massachusetts.



Welcome aboard Dr. MacDonald.

"I see a lot of parallels between Hawaii and Massachusetts," said MacDonald. "Both have strong whalewatching industries and significant fishing activity. I want to reach out to the users and a broader public in order to provide necessary stewardship."

Dr. MacDonald received his undergraduate degree in Zoology from the University of Maine, an M.S. in Marine Sciences from the University of Puerto Rico and a Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Hawaii. He has also accomplished postdoctoral work in Fishery Sciences.

While in Hawaii, Dr. MacDonald served as Vice Chair of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.

The Stellwagen Bank 842-square mile marine protected area is located 25 miles east of Boston, Massachusetts. Its position at the mouth of Massachusetts Bay and rich upwelling of nutrient-rich waters attract the Northern right whale, humpback whale and white-sided dolphin, tuna, flounder, cod, scallop, and lobster.



NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES™

vision People value marine sanctuaries as treasured places protected for future generations.

mission Serve as the trustee for the nation's system of marine protected areas to conserve, protect, and enhance their biodiversity, ecological integrity, and cultural legacy.

October/November Calendar

Natural events

In October, the *palolo*, a marine worm, rises to the surface in Fagatale Bay Sanctuary approximately one week after the full October moon. In Stellwagen Bank Sanctuary, the humpback whale population starts to thin out as individual whales begin their southward migration to the Caribbean.

October 7 • Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve designated in Alpena, Michigan. It becomes the nation's thirteenth marine sanctuary and the first in the Great Lakes. To learn more, call 734-678-0572 or check out the website at <http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/glsr/thunderbay/>.

November 16 • Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council meets. For more information, contact Mike Murray, 805-884-1464 or michael.murray@noaa.gov.

November 27- Dec. 1 • South Atlantic Fishery Management Council meets Beaufort, NC. For more information, contact Becky Shortland 912-598-2345

1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-713-3125, ext. 124
301-713-0404
<http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov>



WATCH

The 448 square-mile sanctuary will protect an estimated 116 historically significant shipwrecks including the *Isaac M. Scott*, a steel-hulled propeller driven vessel lost in the "Great Storm of 1913." Meteorologists describe that storm as the most disastrous storm in recorded history to sweep the Great Lakes region.

The designation is the result of more than a decade of collaboration between NOAA and Michigan. An innovative joint agreement was announced on June 19, 2000 when NOAA and Republican Governor John Engler reached formal agreement on the terms of sanctuary designation. For several months, NOAA and Governor Engler's office engaged in detailed discussions on various aspects of the proposed sanctuary including the size and name, funding levels, and staffing arrangements.

NOAA and State agreed to create a NOAA/Michigan joint management committee to ensure equal governance of the new protected area, reduce the size of the boundary from 808 square miles to 448 square miles, and name it "Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve" to reflect Michigan's underwater preserve. Michigan has agreed to commit one million dollars over a five-year period.

Priorities for the first five years of operation include conducting an archeological survey of Thunder Bay's shipwrecks, installing a mooring buoy system, ensuring ecological integrity and cultural legacy of selected marine and Great Lakes areas.

For more information on the upcoming designation of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve and to learn more about our nation's network of national marine sanctuaries, visit: <http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov>.

Sanctuary Watch is a publication of NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program.

Editor: Nancy O'Donnell

Graphic Artist: Sandra Nitchie

Matt Stout, Chief, Communications and Development Branch

Printed on recycled paper.