Case Studies in Ocean Planning: Lessons Learned in San Francisco Bay

Tiffany Smythe, Ph.D.
Coastal Resources Center/RI Sea Grant, URI Graduate School of Oceanography
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URI, CRC, and RI Sea Grant: Ocean planning experience through the RI Ocean Special Area Management Plan.
Case Studies in Ocean Planning: A Three-Part Series

Implementing the Ocean SAMP: Keeping Rhode Islanders in the Driver’s Seat

Known as the "Ocean State," Rhode Island has a long and dishonored connection to its marine waters. The offshore waters of Block Island and Rhode Island Sounds and a result of the Atlantic Ocean have understood an essential role to Rhode Islanders' lives, work, and play.

Over 15,000 years ago, members of the Narragansett Indian Tribe lived in parts of this area, as on land, before rising sea levels made this area uninhabitable. More recently, commercial and recreational fishermen, the U.S. Navy, mariners, yachtsmen, and recreational boaters have used these waters to harvest fish, transport goods and people, conduct military exercises, and enjoy the scenic beauty and natural beauty found there. Located in these waters is a group called Block Island — one of New England's most popular tourist destinations and a place that The Nature Conservancy has designated as one of the "Last Great Places."

It is no wonder that such water is deep in Rhode Islanders' blood.

Innovations in Managing Complex Waterways — The Case of the San Francisco Bay Region

The San Francisco Bay Region is a socially, culturally, and ecologically complex and dynamic area. It boasts critical habitats and well-known protected marine species and hosts a wide range of commercial and recreational maritime activities. In 2013 alone, nearly 1.5 million commercial vessels transited in and out of the bay. Passenger ferries make over 90,000 trips each year. Commercial fisheries are active, especially during the fall. Recreational uses — angling, kite-launching, and sailing — also enjoy these waters. This tension can often lead to conflicts — amongst users and between users and the marine environment.
PLANNING FOR THE 34TH AMERICA’S CUP RACES, 2010-2013
The challenge: How to hold *this* race in *this* place?
San Francisco Bay
A Dynamic, Mixed Use Waterway

San Rafael-Richmond Bridge
Carquinez Bridge and Strait
Benicia-Martinez Bridge
San Mateo Bridge
Anchorages 8 & 9
Bay Bridge
Golden Gate
Sacramento-Stockton
Redwood City

>130,000 transits managed annually
America’s Cup Authority’s Initial Request
Coast Guard Planning Considerations on San Francisco Bay
Stakeholder participation, local knowledge

**Required**

- Public hearings and notice and comment in connection with USCG Notice of Public Rulemaking and interagency NEPA review

**Actual**

- Early dialogue with San Francisco Harbor Safety Committee (HSC) members
- Use of the HSC as forum for collaborative planning
- Public outreach meetings with six different maritime stakeholder groups
- Use of GIS data, local knowledge, and expert input
HSC Members

- Barge operators
- Dry cargo operators
- Ferry operators
- Maritime labor organizations
- Maritime information exchange
- Bar pilots
- Port authorities
- Tanker operators
- Tug operators

- Federal agencies
- State agencies
- Commercial fishing
- Recreational boating organizations
- Environmental organizations
Spatial planning in progress: Use of local knowledge and first-hand experience
2013 America's Cup Management Zones

Key:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Race Area – Closed to all unauthorized traffic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Transit Zone – For vessels needing access to/from the San Francisco waterfront. No vessel may anchor, block, loiter in, or impede transit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>No-motorized Vessel Zone – No motorized vessels and no vessels &gt; 20 ft. No entry within 300ft of shore along westernmost portion of CrissyField.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>No Loitering Zone – No loitering or anchoring within the zone.</td>
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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>No Entry Zone – Safety zone with no access/entry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>No Loitering or Anchoring Zone – no loitering or anchoring within the zone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>No Entry Zone – No entry within 500ft of the Alcatraz shoreline.</td>
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Lessons learned...and other considerations

• Don’t meet your *colleagues and constituents* for the first time during a crisis.

• Build a broad base of *leadership*.

• *Scale* is a critical factor in success.

• *Community-led* means community-loved.
Thank you!

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For further information:

• Access full case study documents online and supporting materials at www.crc.uri.edu.

• Contact Jennifer McCann (mccann@crc.uri.edu) or Tiffany Smythe (tmyfile@crc.uri.edu), URI Coastal Resources Center/RI Sea Grant