



Principal Investigators - please use this form to submit your MPA Baseline Program project annual report, including an update on activities completed over the past year and those planned for the upcoming year. This information will be used by the MPA Baseline Program Management Team to track the progress of individual projects, and will be provided to all MPA Baseline Program PIs and co-PIs prior to the Annual PIs workshop to facilitate discussion of project integration. Please submit this form to California Sea Grant when complete (sgreport@ucsd.edu, Subject [Award Number, project number, PI, "Annual Report"].)

Project Information

Project Year 2014 **MLPA Region** North Coast

Project Title & Number North Coast MPA Baseline Program: Traditional Ecological Knowledge of Keystone Marine Species and Ecosystems

PI name Megan Rocha R/MPA 39 **Co-PI name** Hawk Rosales

PI Contact Info **Co- PI Contact Info**
(please list additional PIs and contact info in the "Project Personnel" section if necessary)

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Project Goals & Objectives

Project Goal and Objectives

The primary **Goal** is to use traditional ecological knowledge to create a baseline of ecological features and species observations; to identify areas of concerns/threats for long-term monitoring of MPAs; and to inform North Coast ocean policy and adaptive management.

Objective 1: Gather TEK through published archival and gray literature research, as well as tribal community participatory research.

Objective 2: Gather TEK in a manner that is culturally appropriate, ensures the protection of sensitive information, and provides analyses that can inform the baseline.

Objective 3: Create a baseline of ecological features, species observations, and areas of concerns/threats obtained from TEK-informed data.

Objective 4: Document community perspectives on the potential effects the North Coast’s new “Tribal Take” regulation may have on traditional subsistence, ceremonial, and customary Tribal gathering, harvesting and fishing within MPAs in order to directly inform policy, long-term stewardship, and adaptive management.

Summary of Project Activities Completed to Date

Overview of Project Year 1 Activities, including progress towards meeting goals & objectives

In accordance with the Revised Workplan, the following Activities have been completed or are in progress at the end of Year 1 (January 31, 2015):

Activity 1: Perform overall project management, coordination of partners and grant reporting. – 33% complete

A major focus of this activity in the first part of the year was negotiating and finalizing grant agreements, which did not conclude until June. Standardized forms, the Conditions of Award, and the Award Acceptance Letter all had to be modified. It was apparent that the funder has never awarded a Tribe or Tribal organization before. Furthermore, the sensitivity of the data being collected also required additional consideration that had to be further negotiated, as well as other key issues (e.g. Indian hiring preference as related to Equal Employment Opportunity). To assist in providing legal research and analysis on the grant agreements and subcontract to Point 97, Smith River Rancheria led a collaborative effort among the Project Team with the Tribal Legal Clinic at the University of California, Los Angeles who lent three (3) graduate-level law students and the guidance of their professor, Ms. Laura Miranda to the project. This was an opportunity leveraged for the benefit of the project, which was not anticipated in the original project design.

Additional tasks related to this activity included attending the California Sea Grant North Coast MPA Baseline Project Kick-Off meeting in Eureka on March 6th, as well as convening a Project Kick-Off Meeting the following day that included all Project Team members (Smith River Rancheria, Trinidad Rancheria, Wiyot Tribe, and InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council) an Project Partners (Point 97, a marine consulting firm and the UCLA Tribal Legal Development Clinic professor and three (3) graduate students). Subsequent Project Team meetings (e.g. April 29, June 4, July 16, September 3, October 10, January 7, and January 29), as well as countless discussions among staff within each respective Tribe/Tribal organization, and direct discussions between Co-Leads, partners and the State have been ongoing throughout the year. A Dropbox account was also created so the team may share documents easily and a Contacts List was created to support direct communication. Lastly, a more detailed work plan was created and shared, which could chart responsibilities and progress. This work plan continued to be a revised work in progress.

Activity 2: Develop any necessary confidentiality agreements/policies – 82% complete

A key component here was the negotiation of grant agreements (e.g. Conditions of Award and Award Acceptance Letter), particularly the language regarding the deliverables. As mentioned, this effort was supported by legal research and analysis provided by the UCLA Tribal Legal Development Clinic. Additionally, they provided assistance with the sub-contract for Point 97, which also required specific language about confidentiality. Project Team members were also encouraged to sign confidentiality statements for their respective Tribe/Tribal organization and an example from Trinidad Rancheria was shared. Lastly, the creation of an Informed Consent form for the interviewees is nearly complete, which includes a brief overview of the project, timeline, contact info and other pertinent information.

Activity 3: Develop records system – 100% complete

The consulting firm, Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc. was contracted to complete a Marine Traditional Knowledge Ethnographic Database (MTKED) as a geospatial records system, which was leveraged for use on the project. Additionally, a User Guide was developed to supplement the use of the tool. To develop this records system tool, several versions were developed and there were ongoing conversations with the developer for many months. When completed, a training was convened in Smith River to teach the Project Team how to use the tool and several subsequent meetings with the Co-Lead and members of the Project Team have continued to ensure proper use of the records system.

Activity 4: Perform research and data processing of published ethnographies and readily accessible gray literature – 25% complete

Research has commenced to gather published ethnographies and readily accessible gray literature. This began by each Tribe/Tribal organization conducting a thorough search of the materials already in possession and sharing those materials thought to be useful for other Project Team members, through Dropbox.

Activity 5: Develop database, metadata standards, and QA/QC procedures for standardization – 83% complete

This activity is being completed as elements of Activities 3 and 6 to ensure tool standardization.

Activity 6: Develop a Data Survey Tool to gather TEK geospatially and ensure data standardization across participating Tribes and the region – 90% complete

The marine consulting firm, Point 97 has been subcontracted to complete a Marine Knowledge Data Survey Tool. The purpose is to have a handheld geospatial tool that can be used to interview Tribal members. The Project Team spent significant time developing and refining the survey questions for the tool, in consultation with Point 97. Point 97 then developed the tool, which was demonstrated to the Project Team in January, and it is nearly complete. There were some delays with tool development, in order to ensure the tool could be used offline, as requested by the Project Team.

Activity 8: Conduct community introductory and scoping meetings with members, Councils, and/or Committees of respective Tribes – 100% complete

Each Tribe and Tribal organization has had several meetings with members, Councils/Board, and Committees (e.g. Culture Committee, Fish and Game Committee) to introduce and discuss the project in more detail. This includes gaining further direction and guidance on how the project should be implemented. Additionally, a double-sided handout was created that provides an overview of the project and timeline, which is used as an outreach tool for the Project Team to use when meeting with their respective Councils/Board, Committees, staff an community.

Activity 13: Reporting – 33% complete

The Annual Report for the first year has been completed.

The project was severely delayed by contract negotiations with the funder and as a result, work did not commence until July 1. Despite the late start, we have made significant progress to get all the necessary tools and processes in place for data collection to be the focus in Year 2.

MPA Baseline Program Annual Report

Highlights from project progress so far, such as successes achieved, new collaborations or partnerships, or interesting stories from the past year that may be suitable for a blog post or other media venue

It was significant that we were able to finalize grant agreements with the funder given that this is the first time they have worked with Tribal governments and a Tribal organization. In addition, the issues of data confidentiality was a hurdle that had to be overcome to the satisfaction of the Tribes and funder. This need led to Smith River Rancheria coordinating a collaborative effort with the University of California-Los Angeles Tribal Legal Clinic who provided graduate student assistance with grant agreement review and legal research/consultation as a leveraged resource. The development of a Marine Traditional Knowledge Ethnographic Database and User Guide was also leveraged for use as a relational database records system (that may also be geospatially linked) for the published archival and gray literature to be gathered. A Marine Traditional Knowledge Data Survey Tool was also developed by Point 97 from interview questions developed by the Project Team. This will provide the team a digital handheld means to conduct tribal community participatory research, which is unique.

Description of any unforeseen events and substantial challenges, and resulting effects on project activities and progress. Please indicate any issues that may affect other PI's or require coordination with other Baseline partners (e.g., ME, DFG, Sea Grant).

The significant delay in starting the project (July 1st) due to the exhaustive discussions with the funder to finalize the grant agreements were unforeseen and created a substantial challenge that had to be overcome. This had greatly delayed the data collection that was to begin in Year 1 and shall now be the focus of Year 2. There was also some delay with the development of the data survey tool as Point 97 moved to using a different code base in order to develop a tool that could work on handheld devices when offline, which was an important element for the Project Team.

Data status (i.e., paper/raw format or digitized; if digitized, what format?)

Data products will be developed in Year 2, however, 2 data tools have been developed (ethnographic database and data survey tool).

Activities Planned for following Project Year __ (if applicable) – Please describe remaining work and approximate timelines for completing that work, including any anticipated budget variances necessary to complete the project.

Activity 1: Perform overall project management, coordination of partners and grant reporting – 66% remaining

Activity 2: Develop any necessary confidentiality agreements/policies – 18% remaining. Remaining is to finalize the Informed Consent form for interviewees.

Activity 4: Perform research and data processing of published ethnographies and readily accessible gray literature – 75% remaining. Internal archives have been researched by some of the Tribes. Focus of the early part of Year 2 will be this activity. Research days are being scheduled for Humboldt State University Library and Cultural Resources Facility, as well as to the University of California-Berkeley Bancroft Library.

Activity 5: Develop database, metadata standards, and QA/QC procedures for standardization – 17% remaining. Point 97 will develop metadata standards that comply with those identified by the funder in the grant agreement.

Activity 6: Develop a Data Survey Tool to gather TEK geospatially and ensure data standardization across participating Tribes and the region – 10% remaining. Point 97 is finalizing tool, based on some final suggestions from the Project Team after receiving a demo.

Activity 7: Perform training on Data Survey Tool, QA/QC, and interview methods – 100% remaining. This training is scheduled for February 25 to be held in Smith River.

Activity 9: Using the Data Survey Tool, conduct short map-based interviews with interested members of participating Tribes – 100% remaining. Once the training has been conducted and the Informed Consent forms finalized, the project team will begin conducting surveys.

Activity 10: Develop semi-directed interview questionnaire for longer oral history interviews – 100% remaining. This activity will take place in the early part of Year 2.

Activity 11: Conduct and process longer oral history interviews with 60 members of participating Tribes in the North Coast (i.e. key respondents) – 100% remaining. This will begin once Activity 9 has been in progress for some time and Activity 10 is complete.

Activity 12: Data verification, aggregation, synthesis, and analysis – 100% remaining. This will be conducted in Year 3.

Activity 13: Reporting – 66% remaining. There will be one more annual report (Year 2) and a final report.

Major budget variances relate to the late project start in that minimal funds were expended in Year 1. Those that were expended were primarily for the subcontract to Point 97 and for some staff time. There is a need to carryover Year 1 funds to Year 2, however, there are no recognized needs to alter the current budgets' line items.

MPA Baseline Program Annual Report

Project Personnel – Please indicate additional project personnel involved in your MPA baseline project, including students and volunteers, or additional PI contact information if necessary, as well as the nature of their assistance in the project project.

	<i>Students Supported</i>	<i>Student Volunteers</i>	<i>Nature of Assistance</i>
<i>K-12</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	
<i>Undergraduate</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	
<i>Masters</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	
<i>PhD</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	

Number of other Volunteers not counted above and the nature of their assistance in the project:

N/A

Additional PI contact info not listed on first page:

Rachel Sundberg, Cultural Resources Coordinator/Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer, Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria PO Box 630 Trinidad, CA 95570 Phone: (707) 677-0211

Thomas Torma, Culture Director/Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Wiyot Tribe, 1000 Wiyot Drive Loleta, CA 95561 Phone: (707) 733-5055

Cooperating Organizations and Individuals - Please list organizations or individuals (e.g., federal or state agencies, fishermen, etc.) that provided financial, technical or other assistance to your project since its inception, including a description of the nature of their assistance.

<i>Name of Organization or Individual</i>	<i>Sector (City, County, Fed, private, etc.)</i>	<i>Nature of cooperation (If financial, provide dollar amount.)</i>
<i>Point 97</i>	<i>private</i>	<i>Technical assistance</i>
<i>Far Western Anthropological Group, Inc.</i>	<i>private</i>	<i>Technical assistance</i>
<i>Smith River Rancheria Tribal Council and Fish and Game Committee</i>	<i>tribe</i>	<i>Guidance, approvals, and technical assistance</i>
<i>Trinidad Rancheria Tribal Council</i>	<i>tribe</i>	<i>Guidance and approvals</i>
<i>InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council Board</i>	<i>tribal organization</i>	<i>Guidance and approvals</i>
<i>Wiyot Tribe Tribal Council</i>	<i>Tribe</i>	<i>Guidance and approvals</i>

Project Outputs and Materials: Please provide any other project-relevant information, such as descriptions of attached materials, media coverage your project has received, presentations, publications, images etc.

An informational handout was developed that provides an overview of the project that was used when communicating with Tribal Councils, Committees, staff, and community members. Initial media coverage was received that was set up by ME staff, as well as in the Times-Standard newspaper and the Humboldt State University-related magazine.



MPA Baseline Program

Annual Progress Report



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Project Information

Project Year: Year One MLPA Region: North Coast Region

Project Title & Number: Informing the North Coast MPA Baseline: Traditional Ecological Knowledge of Keystone Marine Species and Ecosystems

PI name: Rachel Sundberg, Trinidad Rancheria Co-PI name: Sabra Comet

PI Contact Info Co- PI Contact Info (please list additional PIs and contact info in the "Project Personnel" section if necessary)

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Project Goals & Objectives

Project Goal and Objectives

The primary **Goal** is to use traditional ecological knowledge to create a baseline of ecological features and species observations; to identify areas of concerns/threats for long-term monitoring of MPAs; and to inform North Coast ocean policy and adaptive management.

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Summary of Project Activities Completed to Date

Overview of Project Year __ Activities, including progress towards meeting goals & objectives

Since our Conditions of Award and Subaward agreements were not finalized until August 2014, limited work has been done on the objectives. Our database is completed and preliminary data gathering of in-house documentation is occurring. We are meeting regularly via conference call with project partners to make revisions to timeline activities based on delay of project, share project successes and ensure all project partners are progressing. Training for data survey tool is scheduled for week of February 24th and archival research scheduled for week of March 16. Once literature is reviewed, database entry work will begin.

MPA Baseline Program Annual Report

Highlights from project progress so far, such as successes achieved, new collaborations or partnerships, or interesting stories from the past year that may be suitable for a blog post or other media venue

n/a

Description of any unforeseen events and substantial challenges, and resulting effects on project activities and progress. Please indicate any issues that may affect other PI's or require coordination with other Baseline partners (e.g., ME, DFG, Sea Grant).

The substantial challenge thus far has been getting all agencies and project partners on the same page. We have been unable to undertake any of our planned activities until such time as the grant agreement and award documents were in place. Hopefully, this experience will allow for Sea Grant and UCSD to have an easier time working with Tribes in the future.

Data status (i.e., paper/raw format or digitized; if digitized, what format?)

Phase one gathering of paper and/or digitized published or grey literature is underway.

Activities Planned for following Project Year __ (if applicable) – Please describe remaining work and approximate timelines for completing that work, including any anticipated budget variances necessary to complete the project.

Remaining work includes the majority of the proposed tasks as follows:

TASK	TIMELINE
1. Research and data processing of published ethnographies	Ongoing
2. Training on Data Survey Tool	Complete February 25, 2015
3. Community scoping meetings	Ongoing
4. Using Data Survey tool, conduct short map based interviews	April – June 2015
5. Develop semi-directed interview questions for longer interviews	June 2015
6. Conduct and process longer oral history interviews	July-December 2015
7. Data verification, aggregation, synthesis and analysis	2016
8. Reporting	2016

In terms of budget variances, since little to no funds have been expensed in year one, those funds were rolled over into year two. A revised subaward agreement has been executed to reflect the change.

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<i>Undergraduate</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Masters</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>PhD</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>

Number of other Volunteers not counted above and the nature of their assistance in the project:

n/a

Additional PI contact info not listed on first page:

n/a

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n/a		

Project Outputs and Materials: Please provide any other project-relevant information, such as descriptions of attached materials, media coverage your project has received, presentations, publications, images etc.

n/a