

## Thanks

Many thanks to **Feodor** and **Kirstin Pitcairn** for their generous, longstanding support of the humpback whale program.

Thanks to the **Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries** for both its financial and administrative support of the right whale surveillance and habitat monitoring program, now beginning its eighth year.

The large whale disentanglement program thanks the **NOAA Fisheries** for ongoing support. The Whale Rescue Emergency Fund thanks the **Mary P. Dolciani Halloran Foundation** and the **Alice C. Hansen Trust**.

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We are also grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their generous ongoing support: **C. Frederick** and **Judith Buechner**; **John Burman** and **Diana Stinson**, **Elliott** and **Susan Carr**, **Martin** and **Linda Haspel**, **Daniel** and **Judyth Katz**, **John** and **Linda Lippincott**, **Thomas Niles**, the **Charles B. & Louis R. Perini Family Foundation**, **Lauren Riendeau** and **Gerald Waneck**, **David G. Ritchey**, **Nicholas Skinner**, **Jeffrey Sliter**, and **Paul Troy**.

## Staff Notes

CCS is delighted to announce that **Nathalie Jaquet** has joined the staff as senior scientist and director of the right whale survey program. Dr. Jaquet most recently served as a research scientist in the Department of Marine Biology at Texas A&M University in Galveston, where she was the principal investigator in a study on sperm whale diving, foraging behavior and movements in the Gulf of California. She has also studied the impact of seismic activities on sperm whales as well as their behavioral reactions to anthropogenic noises in the Gulf of Mexico.

Dr. Jaquet was graduated from Lausanne University, completed a masters degree in marine ecology at Aberdeen University, and her Ph.D. at Dalhousie University.

The right whale surveillance and habitat monitoring season has just begun and in addition to Dr. Jaquet, several other new faces are joining the crew: **David Osterberg** will be serving as a research assistant. He is the recipient of a B.S. and M.S. in environmental engineering from University of Wisconsin/Platteville and Michigan Technological University, respectively. **Kathleen Leonard** will serve as the program's intern. She currently holds a B.A. in justice from American University and will enter State University of New York at Stony Brook this fall to begin work on a degree in biology. The program also welcomes back right whale aerial survey veterans, **Phil Kibler**, **Cynthia Browning**, and **Mike Reardon**. Lastly, but certainly not least, the program has been ably coordinated over the last year by research assistants **Owen Nichols** and **Moriah Bessinger**, and the overall supervision of **Dr. Stormy Mayo** and adjunct scientist **Dr. Moira Brown**.

CCS also welcomes **Theresa Barbo** as its first-time director of communications. Ms. Barbo has been involved with CCS for a number of years, first as its public policy forum coordinator, then as a member of the board and chair of its development committee. She holds a B.A. in English and M.A. in Professional Writing from UMass/Dartmouth.

Finally, **Joanne Jarzowski**, director of whale watch education, has taken on the additional role of marine education coordinator for the MassSail program. **Jan Young**, formerly administrator, is now deputy director.

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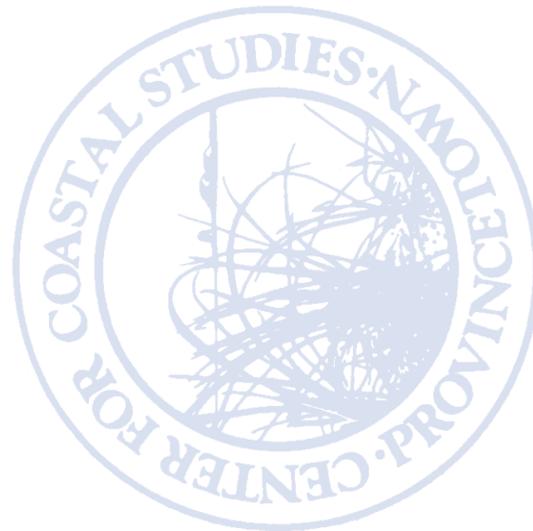
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**Time Out!**

by Peter Borrelli

Most Americans' images of the sea are of sun, sand, surf, and sharks. It's the view from the beach. And what's out of sight is generally out of mind; at least until something goes wrong. The problem is not that we are not taking action. (Imagine what the data would reveal if we did not have regulations like the Clean Water Act?) The problem is that we tend to work on solving one problem at a time, oftentimes ignoring even larger issues in the process--overfishing of a species, but not destruction of habitat serving multiple species, for example. On other occasions we so bollix the environmental planning and decision making process that even after the preparation of an environmental impact statement; we are left with Hobson's choice. Take the issue of offshore development of renewable energy sources.

Currently, in Massachusetts we are divided over when, where, and how to make progress in the area of wind energy development. A private developer wants to build a utility-scale wind energy facility in the middle of Nantucket Sound and has applied to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a permit. It is not only the largest of a number of plans that have surfaced in recent years, but if approved it would become the first. Proponents of the project, including at least one state agency, a number of environmental organizations, and health advocates,

*The Center's new report, "Toward an Ocean Vision for the Nantucket Shelf Region," offers no quick fix. But it does suggest an open process for deliberation.*



who seem to have abandoned all hope of achieving gigantic progress through energy conservation, have concluded that it is in the public interest to expropriate a twenty-five square mile portion of the Sound, which presently enjoys a degree of protection as an ocean sanctuary, for the project.

Somehow the Army engineers are supposed to determine what is in the public interest; something the president, members of Congress, the governor, state legislature, local governments, and residents of the region have not yet been able to do. Time Out!

Clearly, technology is once again ahead of public policy. It is evident that we do not have a coherent national energy policy; certainly not one that is committed to conserving energy or solving the problem of global warming. And despite much hyperbole and paid advertising to the contrary, it is difficult to imagine that the construction of this one project will lay the groundwork for future projects of its type, result directly in the closure of a single fossil fuel plant, or have even an infinitesimal bearing on global warming, as some claim. As I told the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative recently, "You are running the risk of winning the battle and losing the war." Half a dozen coastal states have their eyes on what is going on in Massachusetts and are fast concluding that this is not the way to go. Numerous members of Congress on both sides of the aisle are calling for a national planning,

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siting, and licensing process for these plants; similar in scope to that used for oil and gas exploration and development on the outer continental shelf. It makes obvious good sense. Concerned that the current process offers no hope of providing an environmentally sensitive and equitable (remember these are public waters) means of developing public trust resources, New Jersey's governor has already told prospective wind energy developers to go home.

U.S. ocean policy is out of whack. This was the recent conclusion of two prestigious national commissions. We need to think big and respond to more than the predicament of the moment. We need an ocean vision not just a view from the beach.

The latest report of the Center's Coastal Solutions Initiative, "Toward an Ocean Vision for the Nantucket Shelf Region," offers no quick fix. But it does suggest an open process for deliberation. These are complicated issues of science, economics, and public policy that will not be resolved quickly or by judging one project at a time. How can we be serious and intellectually honest about regional and national energy problems without being equally serious and intellectually honest about the marine environment? ■



**Center Calls for Regional Plan for Nantucket Sound and Outer Continental Shelf**

On January 10, CCS released its long-awaited report on the Nantucket Shelf Region, which inventories the natural resources and existing and possible future uses of this important ecosystem, a habitat to marine mammals, migrating birds, as well as a substantial fishery. The report suggests management options for federal, state, regional, and local stakeholders charged with protecting this public trust resource.

The report, entitled "Toward an Ocean Vision for the Nantucket Shelf Region," describes the state and federal waters east and south of Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket Sound, stretching to the edge of the continental shelf. CCS undertook the study after three state, private and federal commission reports in 2004 called for ecosystem-based management of U.S. offshore waters (see *Coastwatch, Vol. 28, Iss. 3* "Harbor Notes"). If the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and federal government were to apply such a grand strategy to this area, which is the designated location for the nation's first off-shore wind farm, it could serve as a planning model for the rest of the country.

Part I of the report, "REVIEW OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NANTUCKET SHELF REGION," addresses the science of the Nantucket Shelf Region: its biology, chemistry, hydrology and natural history. "Scientific literature indicates that these areas form part of a large, shallow, coastal shelf eco-region that is characterized by a common geological origin, extremely dynamic sedimentary environment, tidally-mixed water, high biological productivity, and unique ecological features," according to the report. Part II, "MANAGEMENT OPTIONS FOR RESOURCE PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE USES" examines gaps in existing public policy and offers solutions to ocean conservation. "An incomplete patchwork of different federal and state ocean management jurisdictions currently exists in the Nantucket Shelf Region," cites the CCS report.

Copies of the report are available in the reference sections of most public libraries in each town on Cape Cod, Nantucket, and Martha's Vineyard. The report and its executive summary are also available in PDF format on [www.coastalstudies.org/what-we-do/public-policy/nantucket-shelf-report.htm](http://www.coastalstudies.org/what-we-do/public-policy/nantucket-shelf-report.htm). And limited copies are available on CD for \$20 by calling CCS at (508) 487-3622 x101.

Regional Coordinating Committee (NSRCC) to develop a comprehensive plan, and to make recommendations to appropriate legislative bodies for policy reform. The report also calls for more basic research and ocean monitoring. The regional committee idea was another recommendation of the USCOP. The CCS report concludes that the proposed plan could be affected by designating the region a Marine Protected Area (MPA) under an existing Executive Order first issued by President Clinton and renewed by President Bush.

"Broadly defined," says CCS Executive Director Peter Borrelli, "a Marine Protected Area is any area deemed to be of special enough significance to require a comprehensive management plan." Hundreds of MPAs exist in the United States and the world. Under the model offered by CCS, the NSRCC "could be administered jointly by the federal National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the state Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA)." Local and regional interests would also be represented.

In addition to the USCOP report, two other independent studies released in 2004 -- by the Massachusetts Task Force on Ocean Management, and the Pew Oceans Commission -- make strong recommendations for ecosystem-based management. The conclusion to the USCOP report echoes all three studies, as well as CCS's own: "U.S. ocean and coastal resources should be managed to reflect the relationships among all ecosystem components, including human and nonhuman species and the environments in which they live. Applying this principle will require defining relevant geographic management areas based on ecosystem, rather than political boundaries." ■

*Spirit of Massachusetts to Promote Ocean Awareness in State Waters*

Calling upon the need for better understanding and protection of the state's fragile coastal and marine environments, CCS and the Ocean Classroom Foundation (OCF) of Watch Hill, RI are about to embark on an exciting journey together, both literally and figuratively, aboard the 125-foot schooner *Spirit of Massachusetts* with the creation of a unique educational collaborative called MassSail.

Scheduled to begin in Boston this May, MassSail programs will be conducted entirely in Massachusetts waters from May to September (see accompanying schedule and brochure insert). The two organizations have come up with a "menu" of different programs, designed for a broad spectrum of public audiences, age groups, and constituencies. These include: community sails based in various communities with shipboard programs for different grade levels. There will be one-week summer camp programs for teens ages 13-16, a two-week whale research program for college credit for students ages 16-22.



Top: OCF Executive Director Bert Rogers and Provincetown School Committee member Burt Wolfman aboard the Spirit. Bottom: Training in celestial navigation. PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY © IN THE WILD PRODUCTIONS.

There will also be public information sails designed to inform the general public about the real environmental circumstances that exist behind the policies and politics of marine resource management.

Bert Rogers, executive director of the OCF and a former captain of *Spirit*, hailed the joint venture as "a new chapter in the life of *Spirit* and an exciting opportunity to share our love and concerns for the sea with the general public.

"Our hope is that over time, every school child in coastal Massachusetts will come to know about the *Spirit of Massachusetts* and her message of marine environmental awareness and look forward to the time when it is their turn to sail in her," said Rogers.

OCF is a non-profit educational organization, which conducts a variety of educational programs aboard the *Spirit* and two other schooners, the *Harvey Gamage* and *Westward*.

CCS Executive Director Peter Borrelli said, "We hope to bring the *Spirit* back to Massachusetts, literally and symbolically. The Center is especially pleased to have the opportunity to work with communities from the North Shore to Buzzards Bay. We hope that the experience of sailing aboard *Spirit*, even the sight of her sailing on, will inspire people and fill them with a deep sense of responsibility."

"While the challenges are never ending, Massachusetts has done a good job of defining and responding to the environmental crisis on land, but we have only begun to understand and respond to the environmental problems at sea. Massachusetts, the Bay State, has a rich maritime history and is blessed with an abundance and diversity of marine resources. We can be leaders in the nation if we act now to manage and protect our oceans now. On a political or ethical level, this program is about accountability," said Borrelli.

Built in 1984 at the Charlestown Navy Yard in Boston for service as a sail training ship, the *Spirit* is modeled



125-foot schooner Spirit of Massachusetts

after the Gloucester fishing schooner *Fredonia*, designed by Edward Burgess in 1889. These schooners were famous throughout the world as the fast and able vessels of the North Atlantic fisheries, sailing winter and summer to the rich grounds of the Grand Banks and Georges Bank. It was acquired in 1997 by the OCF for conducting education programs for middle and senior high school students and undergraduates from the Canadian Maritimes to the Caribbean. ■

**MassSail: 2005 Schedule**

- Saturday, May 12-14  
Kick-off at the Fan Pier in Boston
- Monday, May 16 – Friday, May 20  
Provincetown Community Sails (Boston to Provincetown)
- Saturday, May 21 – Wednesday, May 25  
Provincetown Community Sails (at MacMillan Pier)
- Friday, June 17 – Thursday, June 30  
Whale Sail (roundtrip from Boston)
- Sunday, July 3 – Saturday, July 16  
Whale Sail (roundtrip from Boston)
- Tuesday, July 19 – Monday, July 25  
Seafaring Camp (roundtrip from Boston)
- Thursday, July 28 – Wednesday, August 3  
Seafaring Camp (Boston to Newburyport)
- Saturday, August 6 – Friday, August 12  
Seafaring Camp (roundtrip from Boston)
- Tuesday, August 16 – Monday, August 22  
Nantucket Sound daysails (roundtrip from Hyannis)
- Thursday, Sept. 8 – Monday, Sept. 12  
Provincetown Community Sails (at MacMillan Pier)
- Tuesday, Sept. 13 – Saturday, Sept. 17  
Provincetown Community Sails (Provincetown to Gloucester)

For more information or to register for Whale Sails or Seafaring Camp, please contact OCF at 1-800-724-7245 or [mail@oceanclassroom.org](mailto:mail@oceanclassroom.org).