

CALENDAR EVENT



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
University of California Santa Barbara
Ocean Science Education Building
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NOAA Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and Partners: Vessel Speed Reduction Program Results and Ceremony at Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

What: Media and the public are invited to learn about results from a 2016 Vessel Speed Reduction (VSR) program that helped to reduce air pollution from ships and protect endangered whales in the Santa Barbara Channel and around the Channel Islands. Representatives from up to 10 shipping lines will be acknowledged and thanked for participating in the novel program, which provides incentives for ships that transit local waters at slower speeds, and that assist with the reporting of whale sightings. The event will occur at a public meeting of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council.

When: **January 20, 2017 10:30 am – 12:00 pm** (VSR event); Full advisory council meeting: 9:00 am -3:00 pm.

Where: Santa Barbara Zoo, Discovery Pavilion (500 Ninos Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93103)

Who:

- **Shipping Industry representatives** (from up to 10 shipping lines)
- Representatives from **Vessel Speed Reduction program partners and funders:** National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District, Ventura County Air Pollution Control District, Volgenau Foundation, NOAA Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.
- The **Sanctuary Advisory Council** (21 members representing the interests of commercial fishing, recreational fishing, non-consumptive recreation, tourism, business, research, education, conservation, Chumash community, public at-large, and 10 government agencies);

[More information on the VSR program: https://www.ourair.org/air-pollution-marine-shipping/](https://www.ourair.org/air-pollution-marine-shipping/)

About Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/welcome.html>

About the Sanctuary Advisory Council: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/welcome.html>

Full agenda for this council meeting: http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/meeting_announcements.html

