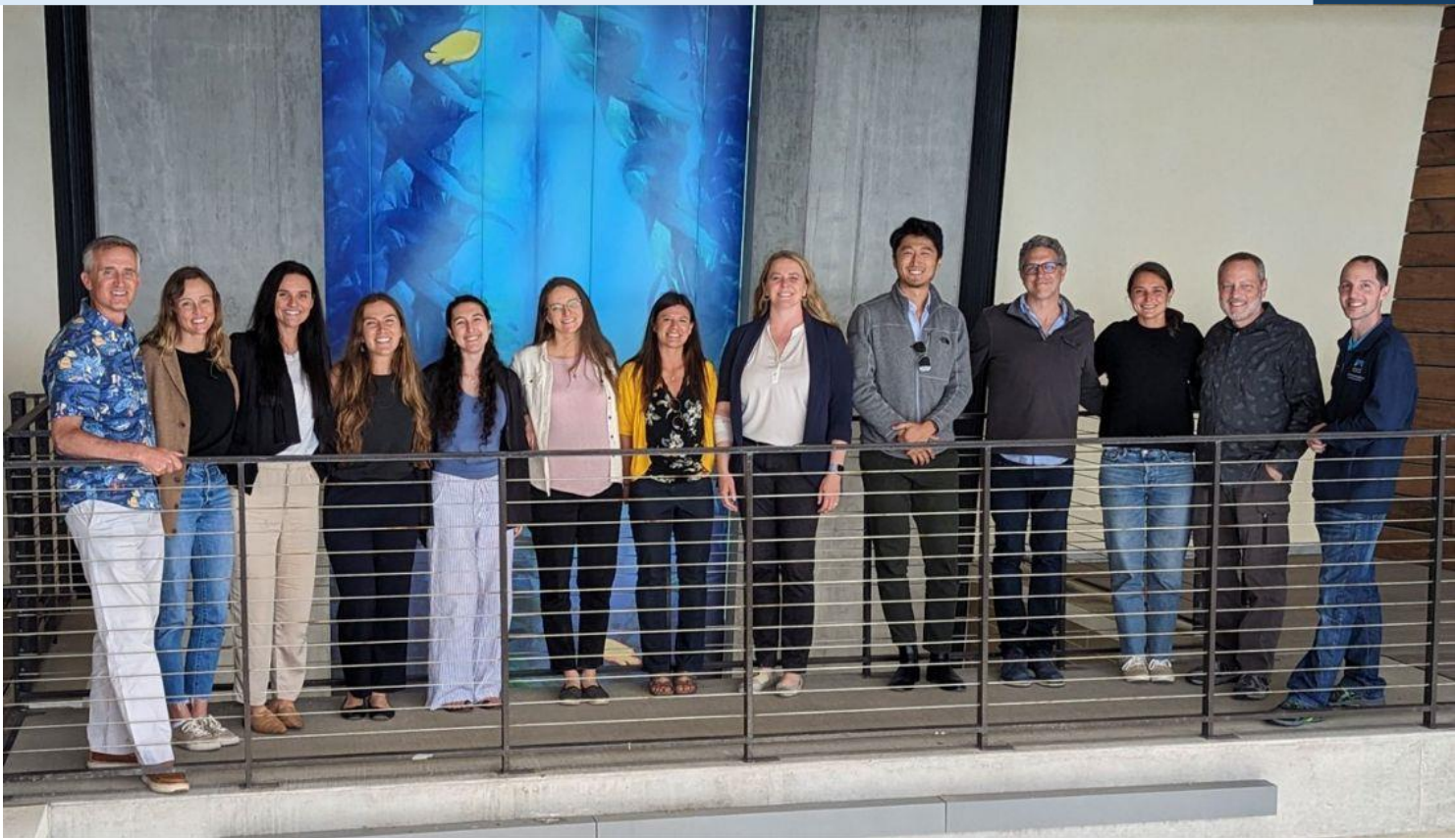


PROTECTING BLUE WHALES AND BLUE SKIES TEAM BIOGRAPHIES



Sean joined Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary in 1997 and serves as the site's Policy, Information and Management Officer. He is responsible for the development of policies and programs to address industrial, military, commercial and recreational uses and impacts in and around the sanctuary. He also handles emergency response, enforcement, permits, community relations, and is a liaison to the media. He manages the Whale Conservation Program for the West Coast Region of the National Marine Sanctuaries Program, and is member of the Shipstrike Experts Panel of the International Whale Commission. Sean founded the Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies program in 2014. With a multi-agency coalition, shipping industry and community support he persuaded the International Maritime Organization to expand an Area To Be Avoided and adjust commercial shipping lanes to protect endangered whales in the Santa Barbara Channel region. He raises the sanctuary's profile locally, nationally, and internationally through astute communication, media, and negotiation skills. He has forged trusted partnerships with academia, government agencies, non-government organizations, and sanctuary user groups. Sean has a Master of Marine Affairs degree from the School of Marine Affairs, University of Washington, and a Bachelor of Arts in environmental studies, University of California at Santa Cruz. From 1997-1999 he was a Presidential Management Fellow with NOAA.

Sean Hastings

Policy, Information Manager

NOAA Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

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Robert Mazurek has spent over two decades leading national and international efforts to strengthen ocean governance, enhance marine policy, and create resilient coasts. He has turned his life-long passion for ocean conservation into a career that has spanned the globe. Internationally, Robert's work with the [Pew Charitable Trusts](#) helped lead to the creation of some of the largest marine reserves in the world including Australia's Coral Sea Marine National Park, Chile's Easter Island Marine Reserve, and the U.K.'s Pitcairn Island Marine Reserve. Robert also started the [Secure Fisheries](#) program, where he worked with the governments of Somalia, Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Mauritius, Seychelles, the Maldives, and Madagascar, to strengthen maritime governance and fight illegal fishing. He also worked as a maritime expert for the [United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's Global Maritime Crime Program](#). In California, Robert helped create the [California Ocean Alliance](#), developed the management plan for the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, and helped launch the Monterey Bay Aquarium's world-renowned [Seafood Watch](#) program. Robert took over as Executive Director of the California Marine Sanctuary Foundation in April 2021 after sitting on the foundation's Board of Directors for 13 years.

Robert Mazurek

Executive Director

California Marine Sanctuary Foundation

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Jessica (Jess) Morten has been with CMSF since 2017, when she joined as a resource protection specialist contractor to help implement data-focused projects aimed at assisting California marine enforcement agency partners in testing and piloting new data collection and analysis tools. She now serves as the Marine Resource Protection Program Director and works to coordinate and oversee the marine resource protection program projects that CMSF manages, including the [Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies Program](#), the eFINS data collection and reference system, the Marine Monitor (M2) shore-based radar MPA monitoring systems, and monthly large whale aerial surveys in the Santa Barbara Channel shipping lanes. In her role with CMSF, Jess also works as a NOAA affiliate in support of [Channel Islands](#), Cordell Bank, [Greater Farallones](#), and [Monterey Bay](#) National Marine Sanctuaries' west coast region whale conservation work to reduce the risk of ship strikes on endangered whales in California. Prior to joining the CMSF team, Jess began her work with NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries in 2016 as the California Sea Grant Fellow with NOAA's Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. Her prior research and resource protection background includes population and behavioral field research work on both coasts of the U.S. - focused on humpback, North Atlantic right, and killer whales - as well as policy research focused on evaluating impacts associated with fishery management strategies. Jess holds a Master of Arts degree in International Environmental Policy from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies from Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY.

Jess Morten

Marine Resource Protection Program Director (CMSF)
Resource Protection Specialist Affiliate (NOAA)
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Amber has been with the California Marine Sanctuary Foundation since 2022. In her role, she works with the Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies program to engage companies that ship their goods into or out of California's ports. Prior to joining CMSF, Amber worked with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary to organize marine debris cleanups at the Channel Islands. Amber also has experience in environmental planning, coordinating greenhouse gas verification projects, and digital marketing in both the nonprofit and corporate sectors. Amber holds a Masters of Environmental Science and Management from the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, and an undergraduate degree in Environmental Studies from the University of California, Santa Barbara. In her free time you can find her backpacking, paddling, or surfing.

Amber McEldowney

Blue Whales Blue Skies Program Associate
California Marine Sanctuary Foundation
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Tyler Harris has over two decades of experience in air quality, mostly working for local government agencies, and another 10 years of experience in environmental science and environmental advocacy. He joined the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (VCAPCD) in 2013 as an Air Quality Engineer working on rule development and air quality planning. Tyler became the Program Administrator for the VCAPCD Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program in 2017 and implemented the expansion of the VCAPCD incentive programs with the Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reduction (FARMER) Program and Community Air Protection Incentive Program. With these additional programs, the VCAPCD incentives budget has grown from \$3 million per year to averaging over \$6 million per year in project incentive funds. Tyler has represented VCAPCD in the Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies (BWBS) Program since the incentive partnership formed in 2014. He has been the liaison between the BWBS Program and the California Air Resources Board's Supplemental Environmental Project group, facilitating over \$4 million in funding for the partnership. Tyler holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences from the University of Missouri.

Tyler Harris

Division Manager - Planning, Rules, and Incentives Division
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Alex Economou is the Planning Division Manager of the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District. In his role, he manages the activities of the District's Planning Division which is responsible for air quality planning, compiling the District's emission inventory, rule development, coordination with local planning agencies, grant and incentive programs, education programs, and ambient air monitoring. Alex has been a member of the Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies partnership for the past couple of years and has worked on several initiatives to promote vessel speed reduction from ocean-going vessels and expand the BWBS program. He has worked for the District since 2016 and holds Bachelor of Science degrees in Environmental Studies and Business Administration from the University of Oregon.

Alex Economou

Division Manager - Planning Division
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Timothy Mitro is an Air Quality Engineer in the Planning Division at the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District. Over the past nine years, he has been involved in the District's efforts to accurately assess and quantify the marine shipping emissions from the BWBS program and from all other ocean-going vessel activities on the West Coast. Timothy helps compile the District's emission inventory for all sources of air pollution and he coordinates the local rule development proceedings to comply with state and federal laws. Prior to his work at the District, he spent six years working at Feather River Air Quality Management District with a focus on permitting stationary sources of air pollution. Timothy holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Engineering from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

Timothy Mitro

Air Quality Engineer

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District

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Lyz Bantilan is the Public Information Officer for the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District. In this role, she manages the District's outreach efforts and methods, including its website, social media accounts, news releases and e-newsletter, Air Quality Alerts, prescribed burn notifications, graphic design, media response, and interagency partnerships related to outreach and public information – including the Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies program. She has worked for the District since 2015; prior to this role, she worked as a local newspaper reporter. She holds a Master's degree in Journalism from Northwestern University and a Bachelor's degree in English, with a minor in Professional Writing and Editing, from UC Santa Barbara.

Lyz Bantilan

Public Information Officer

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District

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Andy Mutziger is the Manager for the Planning, Monitoring and Grants Division of the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District. He manages the agency's transportation and land use emission reduction strategies and grant programs and the SLO County network of regulatory air monitoring stations. With the 2023 expansion of the Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies (BWBS) vessel speed reduction zone into SLO County waters, Andy helped secure unanimous SLO County APCD Board approval for the agency to join the BWBS partnership. Since that approval, Andy has helped the partnership with verification of BWBS emission reductions, steering committee decisions, program growth, and amplifying BWBS successes and benefits through SLO County APCD's outreach network. Andy has worked at the agency since 2001 and has a B.S. in Environmental Science and a M.S. in Soil Science from the University of California, Riverside.

Andy Mutziger

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Meghan Field is a Public Information Officer and an Air Quality Specialist for the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District. She manages the SLO County APCD outreach efforts including program development, youth outreach and engagement, website management, social media accounts, media response, agency wide outreach and communication, Air Quality Alert messaging and interagency partnerships- including the BWBS program. In addition to her Public Information role, she also manages multiple grant programs at the SLO County APCD. Meghan has been at the SLO County APCD since 2008. Meghan holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry and Natural Resources from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and is certificated in Public Relations Strategy from Cornell University.

Meghan Field

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