

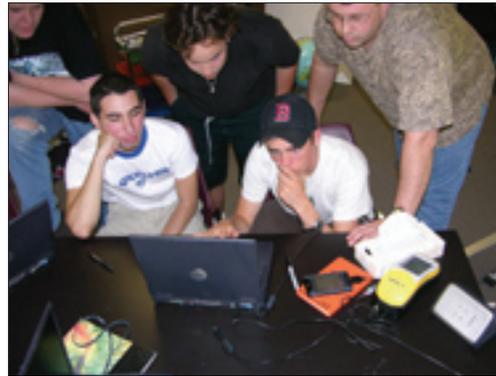
Pacific Coast Science and Learning Center (PCSLC)

Many of the excellent programs of the PCSLC initiated several years ago came into fruition in 2005. More scientists from more institutions and universities are conducting research in the parks of the San Francisco Bay Area Network. In 2005, 51 total research permits were issued in 2005 and 94 total research permits were active.

The Marine Station at Sacramento Landing was open for use in 2005 with the first researchers living at and several groups meeting at the facility, now that there is a new septic and water system to accommodate people living and working at the center. Researchers from Moss Landing Marine Lab and U.S. Geological Survey, for example, conducted side scan sonar and multi beam surveys of the waters of the park on the coast and in Tomales Bay to identify substrate type. Additional existing facilities at PORE, such as the Historic Lifeboat Station are used for a summer, residential program for high school students assisting with research projects.

Under the PCSLC, 15 research projects received some form of financial or logistical support.

Other research projects supported by the PCSLC an inter-tidal fish survey of Tomales Bay and nearshore coastal waters, and a new species to the park, spawning grunion, was identified in Tomales Bay by park staff.



The PCSLC had education programs with 14 partners in 2005, ranging from local elementary schools to colleges such as

Dominican University. The PCSLC collaborated with the Tomales Environmental Learning Center at Tomales High School, for example, to educate students about using GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and GIT (Geographic Information Technology) in characterizing their local watershed for future water

quality analysis projects in the community. Over a three month period, six students met with the GIS database manager of the PCSLC to map the watershed of a tributary of Keyes Creek which includes the Tomales High School Campus.

For the third year in a row, a high school intern worked alongside a researcher from University of California, Davis who is studying the restoration of native oysters in Tomales Bay. This one-on-one mentoring has been instrumental in helping the interns decide on future careers and college choices.

A bi-annual publication of the PCSLC, “Coastal Science Review” shares research supporting science-based management and preservation of coastal resources. This publication was distributed to many audiences including internal, partners, potential funders, community members, and high school students.

