



SAN JUAN COUNTY
Marine Resources
Committee



Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG-LIO Meeting Agenda

Thursday, April 4th, 2024
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 212 282 672 473

Passcode: ydbgAV

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Phone Conference ID: 746 888 859#

While this is a virtual meeting, a public meeting place is available at the San Juan County Beaverton Valley Operations Center, at 1609 Beaverton Valley Rd. in Friday Harbor for those without mobile phone or internet access.

9:00 AM	Convene MRC Meeting – <i>Christina Koons</i>
9:05 AM	Public Comment
9:10 AM	Approve meeting agenda – <i>All</i> Approve MRC March meeting minutes – <i>MRC Members</i>
9:15 AM	NWSC Meeting Report to the MRC – <i>Christina Koons</i>
9:20 AM	MRC Updates/Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024-2025 San Juan MRC One-Time Grant Program (OTGP) amendment updates- <i>Sam Whitridge</i> • Opportunistic Vessel Surveys 2024- <i>Sam Whitridge/Frances Robertson</i> • 2024 green crab molt search: MRC volunteer opportunities- <i>Sam Whitridge</i> • Update on Kelp Kayak Monitoring-<i>Sam Whitridge</i> • MRC Membership 2nd term renewals- <i>Sam Whitridge</i> • Maritime Heritage Grants- <i>Sam Whitridge</i> • MRC subcommittee updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outreach & Education- <i>Katie Johnson</i> ○ Marine Stewardship – <i>Frances Robertson</i> ○ Plastic Free Salish Sea- <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven/Katie Johnson</i> ○ Eelgrass Protection- <i>Beth Tate</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Derelict Vessel Prevention- <i>Adam Parrott/Kari Koski</i> ○ ERTV/Oil Spill Prevention and Response Preparedness-<i>Sam Whitridge</i> ○ Other subcommittee updates
9:50 AM	Committee member updates and any other business
9:55 AM	Adjourn MRC Meeting Convene CAG Meeting
9:55 AM	CAG Updates – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>No CAG Meeting this month. Salmon Recovery Site Visits are scheduled for May 1-2</i>
10:00 AM	Adjourn CAG Meeting Convene LIO Meeting
10:00 AM	LIO Updates/Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PSP Updates- <i>Jason Lim</i> ● On-site Sewage (OSS) workshops: May 8th and May 10th- <i>Katie Johnson/Sam Whitridge</i> ● Habitat SIL Funding Opportunities -<i>Sam Whitridge</i>
10:30 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adjourn LIO Meeting
10:30 AM- 12:00 PM	MRC Field Trip to Derelict Vessel Turn-In Event Media Day- 1293 Turn Point Rd, Friday Harbor

MRC, CAG and LIO Committee Members in Attendance: Aaron Boyles, David Checkley, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genther, Christina Koons, Adam Parrott, Lovel Pratt, Craig Smith, Kim Sundberg, Beth Tate, Sandy Wyllie-Echeverria
Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public: Abigail Ames, Caitlyn Blair, Tyler Davis, Marta Green, Katie Johnson, Jason Lim, Frances Robertson, Alex Simpson, Kendra Smith, Sam Whitridge, Jeff Whitty, Cindy Wolf

9:00 AM Convene MRC meeting

Christina Koons

Christina and MRC staff are together in the Beaverton Valley County office.

9:01 AM Public Comment

Marta Green

Action is driven by tragedy, like recent event with the ship in Baltimore. I ask this committee to take additional action with the County to communicate what we know about the need for and ERTV and reducing risk. Must put pressure on Ecology for analysis and to provide cost for tug escorts. Comparing those costs with cost of the ERTV is another data point to show ERTV cost effectiveness. This is a good time before shock of that incident fades. Let's get this information out with the real data from Ecology's report. We created a one-page fact sheet in preparation for Cindy's travel to DC in February. It wasn't widely distributed, wanted to wait for the corrected risk reduction values in Ecology's report. Or would this committee prefer to go out with what we have now?

Kendra: I'll send a follow-up email to Ecology to ask when we can expect comments back on clarifications.

Marta: yes, and to let them know that we're preparing to put out further communications.

Jeff: about the cost of tug escorts, Foss's cost spreadsheets are available online. Going up Rosario is expensive.

-some discussion of the use of generators on big ships, particularly during docking and undocking procedures

Craig: The fact sheet should be reviewed and approved by MRC; we should just notify Ecology we're sending it out

Marta: it was reviewed and approved by subcommittee. If we heard back from Ecology, could remove footnotes

ACTION ITEM: Kendra will send request to Brian at Ecology for timeline. Then send out fact sheet to MRC

-the fact sheet originates with Marta; Cindy edited a version to use with legislators.

Sam: ERTV subcommittee should approve that version, and then MRC as a whole before we send out more broadly

9:23 AM Approve meeting agenda, Approve MRC March meeting minutes

MRC members

Craig proposes to strike question about kelp nutrient limitation attributed to him; change 'Trans Canada' to Transport Canada; and replace reference to the 'focus on the Victoria ERTV' with Sidney and Roche Harbor.

MOTION: Kailey moves to approve the minutes with proposed changes, Karin seconds. All in favor, approved.

9:26 AM NWSC Meeting Report to the MRC

Christina Koons

Good coverage of GICU event coming up in SJI's. Announced shellfish event in Quilcene in Jefferson. May 5th NWSC outreach event at Edmonds Yacht club, everyone welcome. Cecilia Gobin gave a great presentation to a combined Jefferson/Clallam MRC meeting, we could invite her to give it here too. Puget Sound Day on the Hill May 16-17, several people from the Commission will attend. New member to the science advisory committee, Anne Boudreau

9:28 AM MRC Updates/Business

Reminder: we have a field trip today and plan to adjourn by 10:30 AM. Great opportunity to show up for this event

- 2024-2025 San Juan MRC One-Time Grant Program (OTGP) amendment updates

Sam Whitridge

Working to amend this grant with Sasha Horst. Originally intended for vessel survey and impact work

Frankie: we're contracting with a company that general does aerial surveys for marine mammals. Kick off Memorial Day weekend, then Saturday July 6, Labor Day weekend and two other July/August dates. Just finishing scope of

work, working with scientists at Marine mammal lab about using satellite images to compare with aerial survey data.

- Opportunistic Vessel Surveys 2024

Sam Whitridge/Frances Robertson

Christina: I suggest Buck Bay as an additional place to do surveys, so much going on. Could we set up cameras?

Frankie: we can work with Ally to add that site. The sporadic opportunistic counts really capture those moments. Changing days and timing helps. We should talk to State Parks, they were planning to put out cameras at some sites

Kendra: we'll check in with Public Works for time lapse camera, we've done that before in Deer Harbor

Craig: time-consuming to extract data from time elapse video it may be better for analysis to get a single count daily

Jeff: for Lopez, Spencer spit and Hunter Bay are the biggest spots. Hunter Bay right next to Mud Bay public dock

Frankie: is there a commitment from MRC members to do boat counts on respective islands?

Craig: I can commit to sporadic counts, not specific dates unless that's the request. opportunistic counts are useful?

Frankie: yes, and it would be great to get counts on the same days as aerial surveys so we'll send those dates out

Kailey: I can probably do a few counts back at Bell Point.

Alexandra: we have a protocol, we're in process of updating the online form and it should be ready in a week or so. I can hold a zoom meeting to share step-by-step how to fill out that form if multiple people are interested.

- 2024 green crab molt search: MRC volunteer opportunities

Sam Whitridge

Training dates are coming up, it will be facilitated by Friends of the SJ's, Sam will send out information as available.

'Train the Trainers' event on April 12th in Kingston, you can be trained as a trainer for molt search surveys

- Update on Kelp Kayak monitoring program

Sam Whitridge

Jeff Whitty is here. We've explored restarting the San Juans Kelp Kayak monitoring program. Brian was spearheading, discussed setting up a meeting to address priorities with Samish and DNR. But now Brian unavailable, is there still interest? Can anyone take on next steps in planning? We'd need some commitment from volunteers

Jeff: There would be use for additional data in certain areas. We'd support you in any way you could move forward.

Craig: There are other kayak companies. I spoke with Ben Henkel from Seaquest about participating with Kayakers in the GICU, maybe they'd be willing to incorporate surveys into their tours

Jeff: most MRC's take experienced kayakers for safety reasons. We can go over the training on the protocol with you one on one, and we have a kayak kick off on May 1 and a safety course we're hoping to offer.

Christina: can it be any kind of boat, like rowboat?

Jeff: people use SUP's, but rowboats may not be quite as maneuverable. We can discuss options

Sam: we'll hold off on this until we have more of a commitment or until Brian's circumstances change. We'll revisit

- MRC Membership 2nd term renewals

Sam Whitridge

Reminder that a few (Beth, Jeff, Kailey, and Lovel) are up for a second term, let Sam know if you plan to renew.

Beth plans to renew!

- Maritime Heritage Grants

Sam Whitridge

Small grant opportunity open, \$150K total for a max of \$15K per applicant for projects to strengthen and maintain WA's maritime heritage, that educate and tell stories of the maritime and marine environment. Interpretation and signage, etc. We've discussed renewing signage at Cattle Point so I wanted to float that as a possibility.

Tyler: \$15K won't go far, we may get a couple signs. But it won't address the face lift for the building, and I think those things need to go hand in hand. Our trouble in past has been using County funds to support DNR space

-some discussion of costs, possible matching funds, costs of installation (requires some concrete)

ACTION ITEM: Kendra will follow up with some details about a similar thing got done recently at Orcas Landing
Cindy: the LTAC fund issue with Cattle Point came from the requirement that it to be a publicly owned property
Sam: we'll look into that application, it's due early May. Shouldn't be too big of a lift

9:55 AM • MRC Subcommittee updates:

o Outreach and Education

Katie Johnson

GICU (Great Island Clean Up) happening Saturday April 20th

Clean-up efforts on main ferry serviced islands and then pick up Monday planned from non-ferry served, like Yellow. Celebration at the brewery afterwards with screen-printing on T-shirts from Alchemy

And, UW FHL Open House on May 18th, we'll have a MRC booth, need volunteers to man it

Note – on the Friends website, there's not enough information about exactly where/when to pick up and drop off

ACTION ITEM: Katie will touch base with Friends about that, pick up and drop off are both at the Brewery

Level: Katie - let me know what updates are needed. I'll be at the brewery with games!

o Derelict Vessel Prevention

Adam Parrott

It's going better than we planned, agencies working together. crushed 14 boats so far. We're excited it's getting so much press attention. If it's an annual event it can become known in the boating community.

Christina: at the event we'll film a thank you for Patty Murray, wouldn't have been able to do this without her help

o Plastic Free Salish Sea

Karin Roemers-Kleven/Katie Johnson

We had a subcommittee planning meeting at the Beaverton Valley space, we're working on a draft. Also, noticed many construction sites have garbage/recycling debris from building site. I reached out to Health dept about it. There's no specific county ordinance that requires a bin.

Kendra: that's also a n issue for boat-wrapping with plastic, agricultural plastics. Quite a few big sources. Some things we still haven't gotten to with the comp plan etc., but we hope to get at. Provision for a no-plastic erosion control used for fencing. Need to specify that can't be used in islands, it's on our to-do list to let regulators know.

10:04 AM **Committee member updates and any other business**

none

10:04 AM **Adjourn MRC Meeting, Convene CAG Meeting**

10:05 AM **CAG Updates**

• *No CAG Meeting this month. Salmon Recovery Site Visits are scheduled for May 1-2*

Site visits will be two days, all vehicle and ferry based. All invited to attend. Day 1 – SJI, Day 2 – start on Orcas (2 sites) finish with 1 site on Lopez. Sam will send out draft agenda. Encouraged to carpool in personal cars but also a County van. Site visits are in lieu of our regular MRC meeting. Next regular meeting in June

Kailey: ok if you can only attend for one day or part of a day?

Sam: yes, do your best, it's a long commitment. But great if folks can attend given MRC's role in final evaluation

Jeff: when will you send out the project proposals?

Sam: they're due April 17, two weeks before site visits. We don't have those yet, but I'll send them soon as we do

ACTION: Sam will share the one-page letters of interest – start thinking about those, and stay tuned for more info

10:08 AM **Adjourn CAG Meeting**