



**SAN JUAN COUNTY  
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE &  
CITIZEN'S SALMON ADVISORY GROUP**

Thursday, January 6, 2022  
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
Meeting ID: 886 3442 1597 / Passcode: 280778  
Call in number: +1 253 215 8782 US

## Agenda

<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Convene MRC Meeting – Christina Koons</b> <b>Coast Salish Acknowledgement</b> <i>Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.</i>
<b>8:40 AM</b>	<b>Public Comment</b> <b>Approve MRC Retreat minutes – Christina Koons</b>
<b>8:55 AM</b>	<b>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Value of AIS Data to Track Boat Occupancy in San Juan Archipelago Embayments: Seasonal Trends and Potential Impacts -: Dr. Sandy Wyllie-Echeverria and Yuki Wilmerding</b>
<b>9:45 AM</b>	<b>Discussion of actions to address impacts of vessels in the MSA</b>
<b>10:15 AM</b>	<b>MRC Housekeeping</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MRC workplan approval – ACTION required</li><li>• MRC reporting: Volunteer hours</li><li>• New Member applications and interviews</li></ul>
<b>10:20 AM</b>	<b>Member news and any other business</b>
<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting – Christina Koons</b>
<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>CAG updates/business – Sam Whitridge</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approve grant round timeline</li><li>• San Juan chapter update review</li></ul>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Adjourn CAG meeting</b>

Attached: MRC Retreat minutes  
Notes from discussions at Retreat on threats to the MSA and Actions.  
Google link to MSA Documents provided in meeting announcement email.

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Carl Davis, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genter, Patti Gobin, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Beth Tate, Kendra Smith

**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Jolene Boyd, Angela Broderick, Katy Foster, Jeff Gaeckle, Chris Guidotti, Gabe Harder, Jason Hodin, Laura Rivas, Frances Robertson, Leah Robison, Kira Swanson, Sam Whitridge, Yuki Wilmerding, Sandy Wyllie-Echeverria

8:39 AM **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement** *Christina Koons*

*Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.*

8:40 AM **Public Comment** *none*

Level: IOSA has submitted a primary response contractor application, it's open for public comment

8:42 AM **Approve MRC Retreat minutes** *Christina Koons*

- a section attributed to Lovel was removed. MOTION: Phil moves to approve minutes, Laura Jo seconds. Approved.

8:43 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC** *Christina Koons*

Christina sent out December meeting highlights, attached two bills regarding derelict vessels and kelp/eelgrass. Some discussion of issues with plastics, ties in well with PFSS. No new updates on the funding NWSC is seeking

8:46 AM **MRC Housekeeping** *Frances Robertson*

- MRC reporting: Volunteer hours

Send hours through December 2021 to Frankie ASAP. (Karin attended NOAA marine debris meeting)

- MRC Member applications and interviews

We'll convene interviews in the next week, then make recommendations to council for new members. Anymore MRC member willing to help out? -Phil volunteers

Kendra confirms Feb. 1 is the next Council meeting. Hope to have new members in place by then

- MRC workplan approval – ACTION required

Frankie sent out workplan via email, once approved we can submit with quarterly report.

MOTION: Carl moves to approve workplan as written, Lovel seconds. Megan suggests review prior to voting

Frankie shares screen, reviews tabs of spreadsheet (members should note where their name is listed):

- killer whale tales (with Kailey G.)

- Boater outreach (pandemic-dependent), may be opportunities to partner with Be Whale Wise possible dock talks

- MSA steering committee (Megan, Phil, Lovel, Frankie, Tina)

- PFSS, Nikyta Palmisani is now Solid Waste director

- Derelict Vessel Prevention (Marta Green, Adam Parrot – Deputy Harbor Master at Port of Friday Harbor will also be running a DVR program for the Port's marinas.)

Kendra: should get signatures on this and get it to legislature to secure funding, important to follow through with that

Level: for legislative session –option to participate online, sign on in support of a bill. Almost no barrier to participate

Christina: Lucas forming a working group to ensure bill that's passed includes everything that's needed, seems like Marta and Frankie should be on it. We should communicate with the senator to ask how we can help with this bill -eelgrass protection project (Beth, Christina, Carl, Jeff, Phil, Dana Oster), also seeking support for that in session -False Bay Monitoring and Outreach (Megan, Carl, Phil, Kailey, Wendell and Brooke). Student presentations were excellent. We'll need help with visitor outreach in spring/summer. We have an intern to do monitoring in the summer

Megan: Is everyone on MRC on Tidebite list (monthly FHL newsletter)? link to subscribe:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=wm#inbox/WhctKKXPZdiqTNGxDzHznPhftqKwflXmJhQflmLPCfKCKpLKZQk pJtdScZrVtTkfJvhDTZv>

-Salmon, spearheaded by Sam (Carl, Phil, Karin, Jeff)

-Marketing (Patti, Christina, Jeff, Kendra, Carl) – raise profile of MRC in community, improve partnerships with Tribes

ACTION ITEM: if anyone is interested in writing an article or making a post for the FB page let Frankie know

-Oil Spill Prevention Efforts (Lovel, Christina, Jeff, Carl, Phil and Marta) -tasks specific to this group will be updated at a later subcommittee meeting and the workplan updated accordingly.

Wrap up: The Budget is in the workplan, includes grant information. Main tab shows committees color-coded with tasks by month. It can be updated over time, this is based on grant deliverables (with Salmon and oil spill prevention). Note: left in Navy Jet Noise in case we want to pull together a website page, not sure when

Q: is the Mussel project in there? (Note: need to think about when we're retrieving mussel cages)

- Yes, also green crab monitoring if anyone wants to be involved in that. Also, Carl & Jeff are on Catch More Crab

Christina: back to Carl's motion, all are in favor. The workplan is approved.

9:08 AM **Value of AIS Data to Track Boat Occupancy in San Juan Archipelago Embayments: Seasonal Trends and Potential Impacts**

*Dr. Sandy Wyllie-Echeverria, Yuki Wilmerding, and Jason Hodin*

Sandy begins with FHL Land and Waters Acknowledgement, then describes genesis of project and partners involved

Yuki: review potential environmental impacts of recreational boats – shading, discharge, anchor scarring, etc.

Jason: describes the case of the S/V Orca in Beaverton Cove, stayed many months, dog on board. Jason talked to "Pumpty-Dumpty" operator who reported rarely if ever going to Beaverton Cove. This boat is just one example.

Gabe: DNR made field contact with the "Orca" in October, they left several weeks later. We'll continue to monitor.

Frances: We tag boats with Notice for owner attention if they are approaching/exceeding the 30 day limit to anchor.

Back to presentation, Yuki shows map of sites of focus:

Blind Bay/Reid Harbor/Westcott and Garrison = high density sites. Jones, Parks, Shoal Bay = medium density sites

Site Selection Process: - close to shoreline, not remote - eelgrass beds, particularly where there was historic eelgrass

AIS: transponder. Provides name of vessel, speed, destination. Not all boats have AIS, larger boats often do. We use MarineTraffic.com, without subscription no access to more detailed data, can't store data– need to take screenshots. Some historical data available with subscription (i.e. 2019). Our data show contrasting numbers in 2020 and 2021.

ACTION ITEM: MRC interest in funding a subscription to enable comparisons with 2019, Jason can find out the cost

Sandy: acquiring the data is one thing, analyzing and processing it is another thing – takes time

Megan: I can find funding to get access to data and pay an undergrad to help analyze...

Back to graphs/presentation:

Flyover data: points out a line of boats in Echo Bay –line of mooring balls meant to protect eelgrass. And many boats are anchored inside of that line. You can also see the boats that are rafted up. Adam Summers did flyovers Labor Day and Memorial Day weekend. On average, AIS data only shows approx. 25% of actual boats

Proposed next steps: Continue collecting AIS data and validating them with increased flyovers, collect data from other sources taking counts from shore (e.g. Shaw General Store), Expand to monitor some additional bays, and also use data to construct heat maps (shows example) to show spots of most intensity and consider impacts there

Sandy: reiterate the extremely high numbers from flyover data in places like Echo Bay on Labor Day

Kendra: will you be submitting this presentation or an actual report that MRC can have a copy?

Jason: we'd be glad to share this presentation, not proprietary. We have discussed a publication of these data

Sandy: this has been a volunteer effort for Jason and me, more work could be done, especially the AIS subscription.

Megan: if MRC has these slides, should not make public, not to community, so these folks can publish originally

Kendra: from county perspective want to look at these data with respect to marine infrastructure, etc.

Sandy: Blind Bay was a surprising site, anchorage has gone up a lot. More boats than I've ever seen before on Shaw

Frankie: we should add Blind Bay to our monitoring sites

Carl: flyovers are expensive, what about drones? Citizen scientists could fly and photograph. I could cover Blind Bay

Also, weekenders tend not to have AIS and long-term cruisers do. I think the recent explosion is more weekenders

Sandy: Advantage of flyover vs. drone is that we get real-time data in about 2 hours, confirm against active vessel data. Trying to manage the data coming in from many sources has been difficult. Drones have restrictions, over parks.

- discussion of ways MRC members can help with land-based counts, fits with eelgrass protection anchor monitoring

Frankie: great way to partner with MRC because this is something we're already doing that we could expand on

Patti: Sometimes your strength and help (even financial) can come from Tribes, that's our fishing land and homelands. Speaking for Tulalip, how can we bring in Tribal fisheries/natural resource areas to see a presentation like this?

ACTION ITEM: let's arrange a time, it could be via zoom, for Sandy, Jason and Yuki to present to Patti's staff at Tulalip

Chris G.: State Parks has 13 marine parks we visit regularly in summer. We take boat counts with our own criteria. With some recent staffing improvements, we may be able to help with more robust boat counts in key locations.

The data are clear that boat traffic has increased. Now how do we protect these resources? No anchor zones in eelgrass beds is something that we may be able to accomplish soon. Not a solution but at least a start.

Jason: I would bet a minority of boat owners think deeply (or are well informed) about the impacts their boats may be having on the environment. simply figuring out ways that we can get information to them would be a start.

Chris: We can certainly help with that as well.

Frankie: Jason, we have pretty good connections at least with the "cruising" boating community. But the state parks boating program, NW Marine Trade Association and some other groups are also good connections.

#### 10:22 AM **Wrap up discussion of actions to address impacts of vessels in the MSA**

Moving forward: ruminates on what we heard and discuss at February meeting. Begin at MSA subcommittee meeting on the 23th. There were some clear actions that came out of that discussion

#### 10:24 AM **Member news and any other business**

Christina: NWSC Conference on Climate impacts. There've been a few sessions, more coming up, I'll forward the link

#### 10:25 AM **Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting**

*Christina Koons*

#### 10:25 AM **CAG updates/business**

*Sam Whitridge*

- Approve grant round timeline

Sam sent out grant timeline, formal approval required from CAG to adopt it – request for Lol due Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, then review. Note that site visits are scheduled on May 4-5<sup>th</sup>. Hope for in field in-person site visits, but hold off on deciding.

ACTION ITEM: Sam will can send out a calendar hold for MRC members.

Jeff: how does it work again with RFP's – lead entity sends email?

Sam: I send request for formal Lol (Letter of Intent), applicants submit one-page letter to describe project. Meet with TAG on March 8<sup>th</sup> to talk through the project, TAG provides feedback, then formally invites full application due in April.

Sent to list of potential sponsors, those who've submitted in past or expressed interest. If anyone else, let Sam know

MOTION: Megan moves to accept timeline, Jeff seconds. All in favor. Timeline is approved

10:32 AM • **San Juan chapter update review** – proposed dialogue with TAG

In November we looked at review draft, discussed protection projects– some concern about acquisitions/easements. Sam took that back to the TAG, they met and their desire is to create some criteria around the kind of project we fund

QUESTION: is CAG interested in a dialogue about this? Maybe a presentation from the Trust? Or, TAG could send a letter to the MRC with proposed criteria

Kendra: I want a meeting with the TAG, don't need to hear from the Trust. It's the policy we need to decide on.

Sam: TAG already has a proposal. Maybe take 30 minutes of an upcoming meeting to discuss?

ACTION ITEM: Sam will work with Frankie to schedule that for an MRC meeting

10:37 AM • **San Juan chapter update review**

Received feedback but no major edits. Sam sent out the updated draft. It's nearly ready to go. We discussed sending this to Council with MSA plan, but that wouldn't be until summer. Are we ready to adopt this as our lead entity strategy going into the next grant round? TAG is ready

Kendra: not ready today, haven't looked at it enough. But could approve at next meeting

Sam: let's circle back to this in February, that'll work with our timeline (as people craft proposals)

ACTION ITEM: I'll send out the latest version with Todd's updates before meeting in Feb

10:49 AM Updates from Laura:

-state legislative session starts Jan 10<sup>th</sup> Partnership will provide updates. We have a legislative calendar on website (highlights our priorities), Puget sound Budget page discusses recovery funding. Laura to send priority sessions' dates

-Expecting additional funds to Puget Sound from the federal infrastructure act, including for salmon restoration

-January 13<sup>th</sup> floating kelp canopy area workshop 10am-12noon, the first of three workshops, link to register:

<https://dnr-wa-gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYkf-yrpzwoGNNgCbW1iYTajMOXU4eSP84K>

-Action agenda has been drafted, sent to close partners for review which includes the LIO - Thanks for contribution

- Laura has a new position within the Partnership, working to hire a new person. Thanks Laura, we'll miss you!

10:56 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**



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8:30 AM-11:00 AM

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## Agenda

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<b>8:55 AM</b>	<b>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>New committee member welcome and introductions</b>
<b>9:15 AM</b>	<b>MSA Plan update: Recap of threats and stressors associated with Climate Change</b>
<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Discussion of actions to address impacts of Climate Change</b>
<b>10:15 AM</b>	<b>MRC project updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plastic Free Salish Sea</li><li>• Outreach and Education</li><li>• Eelgrass protection</li><li>• False Bay monitoring</li></ul>
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<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Adjourn CAG meeting</b>

Attached: MRC January minutes  
Notes from discussions at Retreat on threats to the MSA and Actions.  
Google link to MSA Documents provided in meeting announcement email.

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Matt Arata, Carl Davis, Jeff Dyer, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Adam Parrott, Laura Jo Severson, Beth Tate, Kendra Smith, Ivan Reiff

**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Jenny Atkinson, Angela Broderick, Ray Glaze, , Frances Robertson, Alyssa Scott, , Sam Whitridge, Jeff Whitty

8:34 AM **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement** *Christina Koons*

*Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.*

8:35 AM **Public Comment** *none*

8:35 AM **Approve January meeting minutes** *Christina Koons*

MOTION: Kendra moves to approve January meeting minutes, Phil seconds. All in favor, minutes are approved.

8:36 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC** *Phil Green*

Retreat in-person will be postponed until space can be found. Patti Gobin working with Army Corps on permitting process to consider long-term effects, Tribes working with WDFW and DNR on recreational impacts to treaty rights. Updated PSP action agenda out for external review. Save the date for NWS conference November 18-19 in LaConner.

Phil noticed Clallam County has 'critter cards', coasters distributed to restaurants (with QR code going to MRC site). Christina: I attended legislative committee, NWSC working with Patty Murray's office to ensure additional funding

8:42 AM **New committee member welcome and introductions**

Christina: welcome to Matt Arata and Adam Parrott!

Adam: I'm assistant harbormaster at Port of FH. Excited to be here

Matt: I live on SJI, involved in shipyard cove, marine construction/dock repair/boat salvage work.

MRC members each introduce themselves, describe backgrounds & welcome new members

8:50 AM **MSA Plan update: Recap of threats and stressors associated with Climate Change**

ACTION ITEM: if you're interested in MSA updates, please let Frankie know – she'll put you on the email list Frankie recommends the Salish Sea Report. Climate Change chapter includes list of (interacting) physical impacts e.g., less snowfall, warmer air temperatures, higher freshwater temperatures, lower dissolved oxygen in streams, etc.

The list from retreat discussion includes impacts on marine vegetation, wasting diseases, and uninformed public sector

Strategies from the retreat: research, monitoring, restoration, etc. Specific action must address core threat themes and threats for biodiversity targets, must be actionable/tangible within next 5-15 years. Measurable with benchmarks.

9:11 AM **Discussion of actions to address impacts of Climate Change**

Kendra: with the Shoreline Master Plan and Program there are rules around development activity that could be looked at/adjusted if necessary. With the MSA plan, we can guide the work of the County. Angela is tasked with writing the County's Climate Action plan. It's important these plans are mutually reinforcing in terms of focus/target efforts.

It's part of MSP to consider cumulative impacts. 80% of armoring sites impacting shorelines have no permits. We have stepped up enforcement with new environmental inspector, they'll catch 20% that go through permitting. The rest will be recognized by activity on shoreline. It would be great if the state fined contractors who violate state law.

Angela: we announced the opening of recruitment for new Climate committee. Structure will be citizens-based, also a subcommittee of all committee/commissions in county where overlap was important. Integrate different efforts/plans

Kendra: we need this team's list of what will help the marine environment, this committee will be the technical group providing ideas. The core committee will be gathering ideas from the experts. Are we looking for specific actions?

Frankie: e.g., if increased storm intensity/stormwater run-off, should we focus on raingardens and incorporating into public places but also encouraging landowners. Or consider sensitive habitats like eelgrass with declining health, so should there be protection from stressors like boats? E.g., already moving toward anchor-out zones  
Beth has discussed with nearshore property owners, encourage to keep soft shore instead of bulkheads, incentives around docks... trying to address some of these impacts with sedimentation, increases in run-off from the land  
Beth: it's about increasing resilience to climate change impacts that can't change like big storms, increased sea level. Property owners have no incentive for restoration like shoreline revegetation. maybe not enough information available.

Frankie: incentives/mitigation will be big, also outreach/education, and then long-term monitoring/protection. Focus on socioeconomic angle while building shoreline resilience. Are there monitoring projects? E.g., mussels; Long term databases to help look at trends across Salish sea. Incentives could have small components, smaller-scale partnerships

Kendra: we've been sampling water quality. biggest pollutant-loading areas around ferry landings, opportunities for improvement especially at FH and Orcas. With more high-intensity storm events in shorter time periods, water retention will need larger storage and capture. We are talking to property owners about need to manage water. The state owns ferry landings. We sweep area and scoop grit. But there's no pre-treatment facility at either location. Opportunities to educate, particularly large trucks/contracting vehicles. And don't dump coffee in the storm drain!

Frankie: one monitoring action that could be considered, use MyCoast app, document king tides changing over time.

Kendra: also with eelgrass, defining zones where protection is needed. Some education around eelgrass buoys

Frankie: that's two good examples of monitoring – one protection, one example of policy actions that can be taken

Phil: Jefferson County at the NW straits meeting, they also have a storm surge project, we could get more information

Frankie: anyone willing to connect with Snohomish on MyCoast and/or Jefferson on storm surge project and report?

**ACTION ITEM:** Jeff agrees to take that on – find out protocols from other counties, how do they do it systematically.

Christina: could you do some mapping of each island and then a PR outreach from Angela with Jeff and Carl?

Kendra: NOAA predictive data aren't always as good in this area. We want to see the baseline of the tideline proximity to infrastructure. Highest astronomical tide is an Army corps' standard, anything above that requires a permit.

Phil: sometimes tide is 2' higher, because they can't predict the storm surge. Can't model those, except for short-term

Carl: according to Cliff Mass we had the highest tide ever recorded in WA in mid-January, Super King Tide on 1/7/22— <https://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2022/01/super-king-tide-water-levels-approach.html>



Kendra: We are underfunded for needs of managed retreat. Some roads will go away, others will need to be moved. On private side, unaware of programs for property owners with stormwater drainage. We offer technical assistance

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will take list of suggestions from this discussion and build it into our shared google doc

Jeff: Land Bank may be interested in partnering. I'm taking 12-week-course studying climate change, Terra.do

ACTION ITEM: Jeff is willing to be MRC liaison to the Climate Action Group

10:04AM **MRC project updates**

*Frankie*

- Plastic Free Salish Sea

Katie Fleming with Solid Waste is taking a lead on this together with Karin regarding beach cleanups/ island cleanup. Working to put in the Seabin at the port, will work with Adam

- Outreach and Education

Kailey and Jeff in contact with schools about Killer Whale Tales in grade 5 classrooms this spring, hopefully in person.

- Eelgrass protection

maintenance on buoys before kickoff of boat season, in spring reinstate boater monitoring effort with volunteers

- False Bay monitoring

Frankie to work on quality assurance protocol with class instructors. In May/June need volunteers for visitor surveys

10:07 AM **Member news and any other business**

Frankie received message from Rick Larsen's staff, he has framed the Be Whale Wise flag and displays in his office! Also, but the County sent off a joint letter with Islands Trust about positioning an ERTV in this region.

Phil: I thought they said county commissioners together with Islands Trust to recommission a tug to inland waters

Carl: Other Oil subcommittee news is that we're meeting next week with Tony Parkin from IOSA about ERTV details

Angela: <https://www.sanjuanco.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1148> (Marta wrote the press release)

Frankie: Two bills I'm following through Legislative session, request from DNR to boost derelict vessel program, and protection for eelgrass and kelp

ACTION ITEM: Frankie or Lovel can let MRC members know if there are hearings they can attend or support

Carl: article about the need for ERTV's: <https://salish-current.org/2022/01/28/anticipated-salish-sea-vessel-traffic-increases-spark-calls-for-more-environmental-protections/>

Jeff Whitty: Kelp Bill fact sheet: [https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/em leg\\_dnr\\_kelp\\_eelgrass\\_2022.pdf](https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/em leg_dnr_kelp_eelgrass_2022.pdf)

10:15 AM **Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting**

*Christina Koons*

10:15 AM **CAG updates/business**

*Sam Whitridge*

- Final reviews of Salmon Recovery Chapter

Since we met in January, a few more revisions. Everyone involved is ready to sign off and move on. Are we ready to adopt it as our lead entity strategy going into the grant round? Eventually we'll put it before the council

Jeff: Is there opportunity to keep reviewing this 1-2 years down the road?

Sam: yes, we left some data gaps understanding we would come back and revisit through adaptive management cycles

Jeff: any opportunity to extend it beyond 50 years? How do we want this place to look 200 years from now?

Sam: These goals align with what other watersheds have done. 10 years is the critical time and 50 years is long term

Kendra: We need to get this in front of Council because there are some clear targets in next 8 years in terms of how aggressive we need to be to turn the tide. This gives us the backup we need to push for a change in approach.

I support moving forward. Could we do it on February 15<sup>th</sup>? also need to present projects for salmon recovery grant applications

Sam: we discussed going at same time as MSA plan, but if it would help you now, we can do what you think is best

Kendra: If the MSA plan will be at least several months then it's worth going forward now with Salmon update

Frankie: yes, it'll be at least several months, refine strategies, put out for peer review - hoping to do that in June

ACTION ITEM: Kendra and Sam will discuss timing offline

MOTION: Jeff moves to approve revision to the Salmon recovery chapter and adopt it as our lead entity strategy,

Kendra: friendly amendment to put it before council ASAP. Christina seconds, all approve, motion passes.

10:24 AM

• 2022 SRFB Grant Round Next Steps

Letters due 2/18, we'll sit down with project sponsors who submit one-pagers, TAG gives feedback, green or red lights.

TAG processes applications then site visits in early May. We'll need to decide if we're doing them in person or virtually.

10:26 AM

• Scheduling Salmon Recovery Protection Projects Discussion with TAG

CAG expressed desire to meet with TAG, discussed making time at April meeting. All approve. Sam will send materials

10:27 AM

Sam sat in on first round of interviews to fill Laura's position. Laura sent a few quick partnership updates:

- In addition to filling Laura's newly vacant position just mentioned, also Salmon permitting projects coordinator
- Legislative session is underway, Partnership continues their weekly calls with updates. If interested can sign up,
- ESRP grant competition for small grants was open on Jan 13<sup>th</sup>
- Action agenda process continues, Partnership has concluded its review but continues to welcome feedback through Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>. Hope to approve by leadership council on March 3<sup>rd</sup>

QUESTIONS FOR SAM

Christina: what kind of projects are coming in?

Sam: at least one nearshore protection, freshwater on Garrison creek from CD, Friends and County each have a few

Phil: Any feel for how many projects can be covered?

Sam: we'll have about \$2million. We pre-allocated about \$100K to MacArdle Bay from last year so total is a little less.

ACTION ITEM: Letter of Interest process is usually just TAG, but MRC would also like to see the one-pagers.

Phil: Will the criteria that needs to be met along the way be tracked by the TAG so we can use to evaluate the process?

Sam: the salmon recovery portal database is statewide, RCO manages, good at tracking those criteria, input from lead entities. I update it for SJC as projects come in, it's easy to run reports for specific criteria out of that database

Kendra: if you know of anyone interested in a project let us know, especially if it has to do with sea level rise, can match

10:38 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**



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<b>8:40 AM</b>	<b>Public Comment</b> <b>Approve MRC February minutes – Christina Koons</b>
<b>8:55 AM</b>	<b>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons</b>
<b>9:15 AM</b>	<b>MSA Plan update: Recap of threats and stressors associated with Invasive Species and changes to food webs – Dr. Megan Dethier</b>
<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Discussion of actions to address impacts of Invasive Species and changes to food webs</b>
<b>10:10 AM</b>	<b>MRC project updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plastic Free Salish Sea</li><li>• Outreach and Education</li><li>• Eelgrass protection</li><li>• False Bay monitoring</li><li>• Derelict vessel prevention</li><li>• Oil spill prevention subcommittee</li></ul>
<b>10:20 AM</b>	<b>Member news and any other business</b>
<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting – Christina Koons</b>
<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>CAG updates/business – Sam Whitridge</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2022 SRFB Letters of Interest</li><li>• Planning for SRFB Site Visits</li><li>• Puget Sound Partnership Hiring Updates</li><li>• Chapter Update presentation to council</li><li>• TAG discussion in April</li></ul>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Adjourn CAG meeting</b>

Attached: MRC February minutes

Notes from discussions at Retreat on threats to the MSA and Actions.

Google link to MSA Documents provided in meeting announcement email.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-f7TMQmevhSG2NPIMzwe7KhydpndoNY_/edit?usp=sharing&oid=112039195320054983469&rtpof=true&sd=true)

[f7TMQmevhSG2NPIMzwe7KhydpndoNY\\_/edit?usp=sharing&oid=112039195320054983469&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-f7TMQmevhSG2NPIMzwe7KhydpndoNY_/edit?usp=sharing&oid=112039195320054983469&rtpof=true&sd=true)

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Matt Arata, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genther, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Adam Parrott, Ivan Reiff, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Beth Tate, Kendra Smith  
**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Ken Carrasco, Marta Green, Tracie Merrill, Laura Rivas, Frances Robertson, Byron Rot, Alyssa Scott, Allie Simpson, Kimbal Sundberg, Sam Whitridge

8:36 AM **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement**

*Christina Koons*

*Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.*

8:37 AM **Public Comment**

*Ken Carrasco*

Here from Orcas Island to discuss proposal to rename Harney channel, named in 1860 by the British. General Harney massacred Sioux Indians, beat a woman to death in 1836. We propose to name for Henry Cayou. Born on Orcas Island 1859 and interred on Orcas. His mother was native, he served on County council. We have support from Rep. Lekanoff and others. Stephanie Buffum has worked with community. Interviewed by 'Indian Country Today', First Peoples are aware and seem accepting of our proposal. State Board for Geographic Names meets twice a year. Completed initial consideration, next step is State approval. Now petition, approaching 1000 signatures.

[https://www.change.org/p/washington-state-committee-on-geographic-names-rename-harney-channel-in-the-san-juan-islands-to-cayou-channel?utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=custom\\_url&recruited\\_by\\_id=8d411020-997b-11ea-b7c5-bd32949721af](https://www.change.org/p/washington-state-committee-on-geographic-names-rename-harney-channel-in-the-san-juan-islands-to-cayou-channel?utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=custom_url&recruited_by_id=8d411020-997b-11ea-b7c5-bd32949721af)

Need support, please! A letter from MRC to State Board of Geographic Names would be great

ACTION ITEM: Ken can provide the contact for the letter, Caleb Mackey at State Board

ACTION ITEM: a link will be provided for individuals to write letters, Frankie will check in with council

8:49 AM **Approve February meeting minutes**

*Christina Koons*

MOTION: Jeff moves to approve February meeting minutes, Phil seconds. Lovel abstains. Minutes approved.

8:50 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC**

*Christina Koons*

NWS conference planned to be in person in La Conner, announcement next month. Julia Parrish started "scientist speed dating", first speed date was with scientist who helps run Reef. Reef does research in SJ's, partner with SeaDoc. Next speed date March 25<sup>th</sup>, last Friday of each month (NWSC Scientist Speed Dating: reef.org, Christy Pattengill-Semmens)

Frankie: Green crab team are offering a training here on SJI (Frankie sent around information)

Allie: Most of my work is on green crabs! This is a great site for info: <https://wsg.washington.edu/crabteam/greencrab/>

<https://www.washington.edu/news/2022/02/15/edna-a-useful-tool-for-early-detection-of-invasive-green-crab/>

<https://wsg.washington.edu/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2021-Crab-Team-Infographic-Compressed.png>

<https://wsg.washington.edu/crabteam/>

Maritime national heritage area has been in the works. If anyone would like to look at draft plan and comment:

<https://preservewa.org/programs/maritime-national-heritage-area/mw-nha-get-involved/>

Alex Grinwall wants to learn about SJC MRC, plan a get-together next month, may be on SJI, anyone can attend

8:57 AM **MSA Plan update: Recap threats, stressors, Invasive Species, food webs** *Dr. Megan Dethier*

Frankie: continuing efforts on MSA plan – discuss food webs and invasive species (previous 'biotic interactions').

Megan: biotic interactions not a threat, changed category to "Altered marine food webs and invasive species"

List of bullet points from the Retreat included increased nutrients, aquaculture etc. Today we'll describe Marine Food Webs, then list strategic actions— prevent altered food webs? How to be resilient to invasive species? Quick overview of local food webs and how susceptible to being altered, then discuss particular invasive species. Food webs: complex, number of different interconnecting webs, defined by habitat type (rocky, sandy, salty marsh) i.e., habitat of what's on the bottom controls the kind of primary producers that drive a food web. Much of primary production like algae in tide flats, detritus, etc. gets eaten by worms, crustaceans, clams, those feed shore birds. Some places with grasses fix carbon that feeds lower parts of food web, leads to feeding crabs, fishes, and eventually marine mammals. Rocky shores start with plankton supporting most organisms and seaweeds that get energy from the sun and directly feed other organisms. Many connections and components. What can upset biological interactions? loss of habitat builders like eelgrass, rockweed, or mussel beds due to heat waves like what we experienced last year. Loss of habitat for juvenile fishes and some direct loss of food. Increase in consumers, like sea urchins: regionally we had abundant large sea stars, now demolished by wasting disease has caused explosions in urchin populations in some places leading to destruction of macroalgae. Harmful algal blooms, some could be invasive species. These can directly affect humans but also sea otters (concentrated in foods they eat like shellfish). Changes in species of zooplankton that feed fishes and seabirds. The warm blob in the Pacific changed dominant species of copepods, caused mass death of sea birds. Introduced species are not always invasive or threats, nuisance species are not always introduced. One that is both introduced, and a nuisance is sargassum. Threat but opportunities for use. Sargassum competes with local kelp, laminaria, in shallow subtidal zone. Much more Sargassum throughout Salish sea in recent years. Green crab is a problem because consumers of juvenile shellfish. Problem for shellfish farmers. Can also harm eelgrass. Especially abundant now in Lummi farm area, bad because of effects on juvenile clams and shellfish. Spartina, cordgrass native to east coast. No native spartina, it chokes out shellfish beds, overgrows marshes. Introduced but not invasive example: purple varnish clam *Nuttallia*. found many places but not out-competing, food for some species. Introduced but "invasive" is an inappropriate term since it's not harming local food webs. In contrast, there are troublemakers that aren't introduced – ascidians or sea squirts can be solitary or colonial. *Ciona savignyi*, *Didemnum* sp. This is a worldwide concern, can overgrow surfaces in marinas and other places. What kinds of actions can MRC take against altered food webs/invasive species? Example type of actions: -protect particular species/habitats/sites (healthy habitats maybe less 'invadeable'), comment on proposals that affect food webs e.g., aquaculture – can we prevent permitting? – partner with Tribes on native clam beds

#### 9:22 AM Discussion of actions to address impacts of with Invasive Species and changes to food webs

Phil Green: BLM opening up their islands to public access could have a big impact on oystercatchers  
Megan: oystercatchers primarily consume limpets, primary consumers on rocky shore. That's a good example of when just the presence of humans frightening birds away can alter food web (oystercatcher = keystone species)  
Phil: on invasive tunicates, Reef divers are permitted by WDFW to collect invasive tunicates. \

Megan: green crab larvae spend so long in plankton (3 weeks) so propagules can go anywhere, hard to control  
Byron: Are net pens banned here? If so, that was temporary. Ecology was opposed to that with SMP update.  
Level: need to ensure net pens are not in our shoreline master plan

<https://www.seafoodsource.com/news/aquaculture/cooke-gets-two-wins-advancing-salish-fish-steelhead-project-in-washington>

Megan: is there a distinction between net pens with native vs. nonnative species?  
Byron: the issues with nutrification, antibiotics etc. will be there with net pens no matter what.  
Christina: How do we continue to evaluate threats in MSA so it's a relevant document in real time?  
Frankie: ID threats as they emerge and incorporate into the plan, into workplans. Annual review every 5 years  
Megan: some issues have precise data being gathered (e.g., spartina by Noxious Weed Board). But broader changes to food webs, should that be an action item e.g., quantify threats to track them more effectively?  
Allie: actually Dept. of Agriculture does spartina work for San Juan County, several counties do spartina surveys.  
Jeff: how can we enforce regulations on ballast water? Just to emphasize the need to monitor that closer

Megan: I worry things like that are beyond the county's jurisdiction. Could be how green crab got here  
 Level: oil spills are just one possible effect from big ships, others include invasive species from ballast water, other pollutants, damage from collisions while at anchor. Could MRC monitor current conditions?  
 Megan: it needs to be focused. There is work in False Bay now to quantify some things.  
 Frankie: so many groups are documenting current conditions, we can keep track of that work  
 Megan: is there a simple list of all the ecosystem components that are being monitored here now? We got close at Marine Managers' workshop. Look at that strategically to see what's missing, maybe a project for an intern?  
 Frankie: there was a whole monitoring plan drafted and put together shortly after original MSA was adopted. 10 years out of date now but may be a starting place toward building a database for who's doing what in the SJ's.  
 -> some discussion of Marine Managers workshop in March 2020 and EPIC (Eelgrass Protection Initiative Consortium), new MRC members please contact Frankie for more information/final reports from these  
 Keep it going? maybe SJC marine managers could meet quarterly, MRC could help facilitate  
 Frankie: Now work falls on MSA subcommittee over next few months, then come to MRC for reviews of the plan.  
 Kailey: What about educational signage for the public in areas where there are invasive species?  
 Frankie: also for threatened species like pinto abalone, but not necessarily in their key habitats especially when they're struggling. And like what Phil suggested, 'why shouldn't you disturb oystercatchers and shore birds?'  
 Adam: at the Port we have some informational placards that haven't been updated in years, e.g., rockfish. I can look into getting more signage. We have a map we hand out now with eelgrass to show areas where boats shouldn't anchor. I'd be interested to know more things we can give to boaters in tourist season  
 Laura: putting up a sign doesn't always work because invasive species move. But handouts on ferries, visitors' bureau etc. with images of the invasive species and suggestions of what to do/not do with them  
 Adam: we have issues with leash laws at the Port. We're under town law, dogs must be on leash 6' or less. But county ordinance says dog can be off leash under voice command. If that's a problem need to take it to County.  
 Phil: the other jurisdiction is DNR below tideline. National Park above tideline and they have a leash law  
 Kailey: could there be a beach area specifically for dog access? A water dog park  
 Adam: what beach would have the least impact to its habitat and to other species by having dog access?  
 ACTION ITEM: Adam will look into feasible port property for this project idea. Any county-owned access?  
 Kendra: County owns hardly any place like that, Frankie and I can give you some contacts within national parks  
 Christina: Kailey, Adam, and Kendra – want to be a subcommittee? YES, maybe Frankie can help

10:16AM **MRC project updates**

*Frankie Robertson*

- Plastic Free Salish Sea: Reinvigorate adopt-a-beach efforts. Presenting at the Salish Sea ecosystem conference. Need to connect with Adam to get the Seabin in at the Port.
- Outreach and Education: Kailey and Jeff Hogan working on Killer Whale Tails with grade 5, no new updates
- Eelgrass protection: Getting anchor-out buoys serviced in next month or two
- False Bay monitoring: Frankie needs to write quality assurance protocol, starting visitor outreach in the spring

10:21 AM **Member news and any other business**

Tracie: Katie Fleming is giving a PFSS lecture at the Whale Museum April 20th (this should be considered a public comment because Tracie is not an MRC member)

10:22 AM • Derelict vessel prevention

*Marta Green*

Frankie presented about this together with Snohomish MRC at the Jefferson County MRC meeting.

Marta: should this be a topic for next meeting? I want to hear more about what Jefferson County is doing.

We've done two patrols recently – one in Blind Bay, acknowledgements from owners that they'd move their boats. With Adam we did a patrol in Beaverton and Shipyard coves. We haven't been 100% successful on all intervention/outreach. Trying to use prevention to avoid needing to do expensive removals.

About the ERTV letter: Tony Parkin joined our last subcommittee meeting on 2/9/22, he compared the tanker escort regime for Prince William Sound to what we have in Haro Strait, more robust in Canada. Discussed concept of a multi-mission ETV, less space for equipment than a mission-specific ETV. Primarily for prevention.

IOSA had an inspection in mid-February, if passed they can be a contractor for 2- to 3-hour response. IOSA also bidding on State dept. for enterprise services for hazmat contractors. <https://www.iosaonline.org/training>

We also discussed how to determine the carrying capacity of Haro Strait.

On Jan 26<sup>th</sup> our County Council and Islands Trust Council sent joint letter to Transport and Fisheries/ocean Minister again requesting an ETV be positioned in Sydney. Referenced studies done since last request in 2018.

The letter was high profile, Marta contacted by Larsen and Cantwell in response asking how they could help.

Jeff: if boat runs aground in county and crew/owner evacuated, does it automatically become a derelict vessel?

Marta: no, may involve coast guard. We may identify with DNR as a vessel of concern

Frankie: <https://www.sanjuanco.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1148>

10:33 AM **Adjourn MRC meeting and convene CAG**

10:33 AM **CAG updates/business**

*Sam Whitridge*

- 2022 SRFB Letters of Interest

Grant round is underway. 12 letters of interest, 6 different sponsors. Sam shows spreadsheet of proposed projects and sponsoring organizations. At bottom shows projected allocation, just under \$1.9 million. Total request is a bit under \$3.5 million. This is early in process, expect estimated request to get closer. Project #8 is a Preservation Trust easement, could be covered by PSAR Large Cap, a different funding pot. Sam will continue to update us. On Tuesday March 8<sup>th</sup> TAG will meet for official LoI review, Q&A with each project sponsor. TAG will give the typical green/yellow/red light for projects to advance or not. Full applications due in April.

10:38 AM • Planning for SRFB Site Visits

Sam: in-person site visits? Seems like a good chance to get out in the field. We'd likely need boats. We have a lot of projects/sites to visit, maybe virtual presentations earlier in the week so we can maximize time in the field.

Kendra: I'm fine with virtual presentations. Some sites are worth looking to capture the breadth/depth of what's being proposed but for some it may not be necessary, maybe rely on sponsors to decide

Megan: if we're considering spending a million on a piece of property or armor removal, need boots on ground.

Sam: I can pare list down for where to visit, maybe all sites in one day and virtual presentations the day before

Laura: a few more considerations, we have a better memory in the real space. There's a risk if we don't visit all of them. And if it's a brand-new project that maybe worth visiting in person

10:47 AM • Chapter Update presentation to council

The document has been distributed widely. We discussed presentation to Council, Kendra and I are planning that for late March. And reminder: we scheduled a discussion with the TAG for our April meeting regarding protection-based projects. Sam will send around information about that soon

10:49 AM • Puget Sound Partnership Hiring Update

Hired Matt Colston from Island County, starting shortly, should be at our virtual meeting in April. Legislature closing March 10<sup>th</sup>. Some key bills didn't make it but some elements of those bills still supported in budget.

10:53 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**



**SAN JUAN COUNTY  
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE &  
CITIZEN'S SALMON ADVISORY GROUP**

Thursday, April 7, 2022  
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
Meeting ID: 878 2141 7647 / Passcode: 663186  
Call in number: +1 253 215 8782 US

## Agenda

<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Convene MRC Meeting – Christina Koons</b> <b>Coast Salish Acknowledgement</b> <i>Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.</i>
<b>8:40 AM</b>	<b>Public Comment</b> <b>Approve MRC February minutes – Christina Koons</b>
<b>8:50 AM</b>	<b>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>MRC House Keeping: Frances Robertson</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approval of Annual Report</li><li>• SSEC Conference</li><li>• Project updates</li><li>• Discussion – meeting in person</li></ul>
<b>9:15 AM</b>	<b>Discussion: Proposed committee structure change – Frances Robertson, Marta Green, &amp; Kendra Smith</b>
<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Presentation: Exploring protection priorities for Southern Resident killer whale foraging areas along the westside of San Juan Island: Summary of recommendations – Frances Robertson</b>
<b>10:05 AM</b>	<b>Member news and any other business</b>
<b>10:15 AM</b>	<b>Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting – Christina Koons</b>
<b>10:15 AM</b>	<b>Salmon Recovery protection strategy discussion – Sam Whitridge and TAG</b>
<b>10:55 AM</b>	<b>CAG updates/business – Sam Whitridge</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SFRB site visit planning</li></ul>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Adjourn CAG meeting</b>

Attached: MRC March minutes  
2021 Annual Report

<https://www.sicmrc.org/other-content/exploring-protection-priorities-for-southern-resident-killer-whale-foraging-areas/>



**Committee Members in Attendance:** Matt Arata, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genther, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Adam Parrott, Ivan Reiff, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Kendra Smith

**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Jenny Atkinson, Matt Colston, Jenny DeGroot, Deborah Giles, Ray Glaze, Marta Green, Alexis Haifley, Sasha Horst, Tracie Merrill, Kat Moore, Laura Rivas, Frances Robertson, Barbara Rosenkotter, Byron Rot, Tina, Whitman, Sam Whitridge

8:35 AM **Convene MRC Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement**

Christina Koons

*Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.*

8:36 AM **Public Comment**

none

8:37 AM **Approve MRC March minutes**

Christina Koons

MOTION: Jeff moves to approve the March meeting minutes, Laura Jo seconds. All in favor. Minutes are approved.

8:38 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC**

Christina Koons

\$3million in congressionally directed spending was received by NWSC. Encourage all to attend monthly NWSC meetings if interest in attending Julia Parrish's series of scientists, last month Drew Harvell presented about eelgrass. Green crab is this month with Sean McDonald, April 22

8:41 AM **MRC House Keeping**

Frankie Robertson

- Approval of Annual Report – needs action today.

MOTION: Christina moves to approve the Report, Phil seconds. All in favor ("nicely done!"), the Report is approved.

8:42 AM 

- NWSC asked to submit letters for further congressionally directed funding from next year's federal budget. We updated last year's letter, need approval from MRC

MOTION: Jeff moves to approve the letter, Christina seconds. All in favor, the motion is approved.

8:44 AM 

- SSEC Conference, Frankie provides link to the program: <https://www.eventsair.com/ssec2022>

Christina, Jeff, Laura Jo, Karin (presenting a PFSS poster), Beth, and Phil are attending virtually. Presentations need to be uploaded by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Frankie registered these participants – check your email for confirmation.

Marta is presenting about oil spill analysis. Frankie is creating the PFSS poster for Karin to present, also participating on a panel about community-based approaches to killer whale protection and giving a traditional talk on the SRKW Westside project. The conference will also feature Carl Davis's video\*

*\* Carl's video is part of the following screening:*

*Join Orca Recovery Coordinator, Tara Galuska, on April 21 from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. when she screens 6 short films about the Salish Sea's diverse ecosystems and communities. This is a preview of some of the topics that will be covered at the upcoming Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference on April 26.*

*The virtual film screening is free, but space is limited. Register now: <https://bit.ly/3KTSnGN>*

8:48 AM 

- Project updates

Seabin going in next month thanks to Adam. Taking on a new intern, plan for them to help with daily monitoring of the Seabin, monitoring and documenting ulva growth at False Bay. We'll start visitor surveys again Memorial day weekend.

Frankie: I'll email the MRC and FB residents about a schedule, focus on low tides and times with most visitors. Intern will also lead the data collection surveys to estimate *Ulva* sp. presence, distribution, and density throughout summer, 1-2 surveys/month June-September. The QAPP has now been submitted to Ecology for approval.

Jeff: on the Seabin, have we done outreach to private marinas? Does anyone want to check it out/discuss?

Frankie: not yet, one school class from Orcas is planning to come see it and analyze data from last summer

ACTION ITEM: Jeff will reach out to groups on SJ, see if we can organize more visits

Adam: it would be cool to build a display showing what the Seabin has removed

ACTION ITEM: vessel counts and False Bay effort will begin Memorial day weekend, Frankie will email volunteers

8:56 AM **Discussion: Proposed committee structure change** *Frankie Robertson, Marta Green and Kendra Smith*

Kendra (shares screen): exciting advancements in marine program, integrate work further among MRC/and LIO. Potential to use engaged community and staffing capacity more effectively where we have overlapping roles. Streamline. Need to manage funding coming in now without staffing up too much. We suggest addition of the word 'advisory' = the Marine Resources Advisory Committee, then subcommittees for core areas of interest. We already have coordinated delivery: overlap of funding sources, priority threats, project types, membership targets. Current staffing structure with 2.6 FTE (siloes), and proposed structure with 3.4 FTE accounting for administrative work already happening. Added position to support program management/coordination. Need approval through County.

Talked with Tom Cowan, PSP, NWS, there was some concern about loss of MRC identity. If we maintain a close title of the name, it's maintaining and expanding MRC's activities, same website with connection to NWS. Action projects (MRC) vs. Planning (LIO) – opportunity to leverage LIO resources for shovel-ready projects in salmon recovery etc.

Byron: the Marine Project Manager can apply for SRFB funding, i.e. it's not a conflict of interest

QUESTIONS

Christina: Karin, Phil and I met with Lucas and NWS executive committee to hear concerns. MRC system created to promote bottom-up community membership. Do you see this new structure addressing this concern?

Marta: driver behind the Action Agenda and LIO is locally directed recovery work, for local projects. I don't see a conflict, we'll still push for work that benefits us locally. We already share local priorities with these other entities.

Kendra: we need to develop a work plan for LIO money and it would be great to have this group participate in that

Tina: Lovel had a conflict so speaking on her behalf. Efficiency makes sense and not being siloes, need to have enough department/staff to handle this money when it flows. But consider how the Implementation Action Agenda made Tribes a decision-making authority for the LIO-portion of the funds, important to preserve that part of the structure.

Marta: Tribes have unfilled roles on the Action Agenda, 3 positions out of 5 that haven't participated for several years. Now with 4-year \$400K workplan, need to develop workplan and then decisions to apply for individual project funds will fall on individual sponsors.

Laura: In the past LIO had one annual decision about \$100K. Now there may be many smaller decisions about how to support sponsor-grant funding. Partnership is on board with this proposal, open to hearing details and help develop it.

Karin: MRC is a bottom-up organization where citizens get to give input on marine resources –careful it doesn't become a county organization that has some citizens but with reduced input. Also, will the LIO be tacked on to end of the CAG meeting? I'm in favor of increased efficiency and removal of silos, just don't want MRC to be swallowed up

Byron: Tribes are Sovereign Nations, they work at the government-to-government decision-making level, which the LIO addressed. Maybe have a government-to-government Marine subcommittee that deals with policy level issues?

Frankie: MRC has already been part of setting priorities, this funding coming in now is an opportunity to move the needle and best use resources. This is about continuing to involve community as we move forward. Government

looks to us at the local level to tell them what's needed, e.g. local regulations about SRKW led to state and federal regulations

Kendra: Timeline is to get a thumbs up now, then talk with Jamie, then formalize it with a vote maybe by June

Sasha: I'm taking notes to share with executive committee. NWS has questions, understand need for efficiency

**ACTION ITEM:** Kendra will share her powerpoint presentation with Sasha and Laura, and all the MRC

Jeff: I give thumbs-up, as a volunteer citizen on the MRC I trust you, I see the challenges. This is a good move forward

9:45 AM **Presentation: Exploring protection priorities for Southern Resident killer whale foraging areas along the westside of San Juan Island: Summary of recommendations** *Frankie Robertson*

Wrapping up this effort on data we've collected for this project and present where we landed on a recommendation.

The west side is an important high-value resource area (review some history of the no-go zone). Local community workshops identified need for greater protection and for identifying foraging hotspots. Known presence/proximity of vessels impact SRKW in various ways causing physiological stress; importantly – reduced time spent foraging.

Project goals: collect relevant data (acoustic monitoring, animal presence) and understand community values/priorities

\* All data presented are on the MRC website – page dedicated to this project, <https://www.sjcmrc.org/other-content/exploring-protection-priorities-for-southern-resident-killer-whale-foraging-areas/>

Whale foraging analysis: Combined data from 7 different sources (land-based and boat-based observations) since 2003. Showed areas of highest foraging off Southwest area and onto Salmon Bank, and in Haro Strait around Lime Kiln.

Acoustic monitoring: Higher occurrence of vessel activity on weekends and holidays.

Social values and attitudes: Gathered information from 7 different groups. Series of stakeholder engagement sessions with interactive web map to look at overlap of whale foraging areas with different user groups' high-value areas.

Management Alternatives: Combination of spatial and temporal tools/strategies could reduce/remove disturbance from vessel presence in whales' highest foraging areas, provide most protection for whales and preserve sovereignty of Tribes. Propose a quiet area on west side. Certain activities (fishing and whale watching) restricted, triggered by presence of whales. Slow-zone would be in place May-September. Also limit research-vessels in Restricted Activity Zones, and human-powered craft remain within 100 yards of shore.

This recommendation is rooted in science, continues to encompass human activities that hold value for the community

Frankie will present this to council on April 19<sup>th</sup>, then submit full report to Tribal/Federal/State partners for peer review then final report due to funders as a grant deliverable, want a head-nod from MRC that we should take this forward

**QUESTIONS**

Ivan: historically expect to see SRKW all year. So why restrict May-September? Will this start when first SRKW seen?

Frankie: we'd focus on a peak boating season. Like ECHO program in Haro Strait, triggered by whales' arrival in June.

Ivan: if aim is to lower volume during prime boating season that makes sense. But rules about migratory animals that most days won't be around doesn't make sense. Should present this with rationale based on season of highest boating activity. The animals' activity is not static. We should stay away from restriction based on when they arrive.

Ray: As complexity of regulations increases, so does the difficulty of compliance and enforcement

Karin: What indicates whale presence? Visual or acoustic confirmation? How to communicate to citizens/water-users?

Frankie: implementing the proposals we're putting in would require significant resources for monitoring and enforcement. Navigation software has the capacity to incorporate zones. Trying to find the balance, some protection.

Jeff: SRKW are in distress/decline, what we have now isn't working, they're still in danger. For recreational fishermen, it's more distressing to not know from what their plans can be. If rules are clear, they'll know in advance where to go

Byron: I think the go-slow and no-go both needs to be seasonal, and not when whales are present. Needs to be clear

Laura Jo: speed in the voluntary go-slow zone is 7 knots. That is not slow enough.

Christina: do you need our approval here before taking this to council?

Frankie: we've had support funding from NWS foundation and commission, some from county. We need to present this to NFWF as a deliverable of the grant. We can quantify how much habitat we're protecting and what its value is.

MOTION: Christina proposes to advance this work's findings and recommendations to SJC council so staff can move ahead with grant deliverables. Jeff seconds. All in favor. Motion passes

#### 10:00 AM **Member news and any other business**

Karin: The Great Island Clean Up is on Saturday 23rd of April. we need all MRC members involved! Sign up on the website! Also PFSS has a facebook page, please "like it" and also share, share, share!

Sasha: I'm including that in our newsletter, Karin, thanks!

#### 10:34 AM **Adjourn MRC meeting and convene CAG**

*Christina Koons*

#### 10:35 AM **Salmon Recovery Protection Strategy Discussion**

*Sam Whitridge and TAG*

Idea for this discussion came after TAG reaffirmed protection of intact nearshore habitat as the top priority salmon recovery strategy in San Juan County. Some MRC members had questions/issues. Sam sent materials regarding protection in 2017 PIAT ranking criteria – looks at fish use (shore forms/migration regions), parcel characteristics and habitat condition, as considerations for protection projects.

Kendra: I know focus is primarily on shoreline/riparian area for purchases. My frustration is that protected areas are restricted to public access. Also that salmon restoration projects don't need to have permanent protection – should we change that for easements? Lastly, I prefer to see wealthy owners donate land if they believe strongly in protecting it.

Tina: The SMP's job isn't salmon recovery and to protect shorelines permanently, has conflicting mandates to prioritize ports and marinas, adherence to the SMP won't universally improve habitat. There are complicated reasons why Trust doesn't always want an easement. Don't want so many rules that we're prevented from doing anything

Barbara: current criteria should be more robust. But that's not a full answer. For the Trust, any acquisition is in perpetuity forever. There's a lot we don't know about how effective restoration actions are, can't bring habitat back fully. Time limits on restoration projects present difficulties. And many legacy landowners are land-wealthy but cash-poor, come to the Trust because want to see property protected long-term but can't provide stewardship support.

Ray Glaze: regarding the SMP, we have opportunities coming up now and shouldn't let perfect be enemy of the good.

Kendra: maybe the problem is optics. Cost of properties is high, trying to achieve a net gain in salmon recovery that means not only protecting the best but also actively pursuing restoration. There's a limited pot of money

Sam: we set a high bar to show benefit of habitat as well as development risk. Also leverage with other funding sources

Barbara: we're looking to maintain property from ever being developed or being developed further long term.

Kendra: addition of those factors including development status - could that be expanded on? Goes back to the SMP.

Tina: don't want to make things so prescriptive that a good project can't make it. Rely on the process, TAG and CAG.

11:01 AM **CAG updates/business**

*Sam Whitridge*

- SRFB site visit planning

May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> are the Salmon recovery site visits, hybrid virtual presentation and in-person site visit.

ACTION ITEM: Sam will send out agenda mid-April

11:02 AM New Partnership Recovery coordinator

Laura: meet Matt Colston, supporting the MRC for the Partnership. Lives in Oak Harbor, worked for Island County.

Matt: it was a packed meeting, nice to see what goes on!

11:04 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**



San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



SAN JUAN LOCAL INTEGRATING ORGANIZATION

## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG-LIO Meeting Agenda

**Thursday June 2, 2022**  
**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 894 7974 7903 Passcode: 270175

Call in number: +1 253 215 8782 US

*While this is a virtual meeting, a public meeting place is available at the County's Fairground offices, 849 Argyle Avenue, Friday Harbor for those without mobile phone or internet access.*

9:00 AM	<p><b>Convene Meeting – Christina Koons</b>  <b>Coast Salish Acknowledgement</b>  <i>Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that has been passed down from generation to generation.</i></p>
9:05 AM	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>
9:10 AM	<p><b>Approve meeting agenda – All</b></p>
	<p><b>Approve April MRC meeting minutes – Members</b></p>
9:15 AM	<p><b>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons</b></p>
9:30 AM	<p><b>Update on Marine Advisory Committees staffing and meetings – Kendra Smith</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion around meeting format – virtual vs. in-person</li> </ul>
10:00 AM	<p><b>2022-2023 MRC project proposals - Action required</b>  <b>Federal funding special project proposal – Action required</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jackson Beach Creosote piling removal</li> </ul>
10:20 AM	<p><b>Project Updates</b>  <b>MRC projects – Frances Robertson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PFSS – SeaBin and other project updates – Adam Parrot</li> <li>• False Bay</li> <li>• Vessel Monitoring</li> </ul>

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10:35 AM	<b>CAG projects – <i>Sam Whitridge</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2022 SRFB Grant Round Update</li></ul>
10:55 AM	<b>5-minute break</b>
11:00 AM	<b>LIO projects – <i>Marta Green</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• County-wide Creosote Assessment</li><li>• LIO Collective Policy Project: Building Collective Commitment to Priority Shoreline Permitting Solutions in Puget Sound</li></ul>
11:20 AM	<b>Puget Sound Action Agenda update – <i>Marta Green</i></b>
11:30 AM	<b>2023-2025 Federal (BIL) funding work planning – <i>Sam Whitridge</i></b>
11:35 AM	<b>Approve March 3 meeting summary – <i>Members</i></b>
11:40 AM	<b>Puget Sound Partnership update – <i>Matt Colston</i></b>
11:50 AM	<b>MRC-LIO Member news and any other business</b>
12:00 PM	<b>Adjourn Meeting</b>

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San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG Meeting Minutes June 2, 2022

**MRC Committee Members in Attendance:** Matt Arata, Carl Davis, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genter, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Adam Parrott, Lovel Pratt, Ivan Reiff, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Beth Tate, Kendra Smith

**LIO Committee Members in Attendance:** Kendra Smith, Phil Green, Kimbal Sundberg, Sam Whitridge, Frances Robertson, Paul Andersson

**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Matt Colston, Marta Green, Lucas Hart, Sasha Horst, Dana Oster, Frances Robertson, Austin Rose, Jamie Stephens, Sam Whitridge

9:02 AM    **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement** *Christina Koons*  
*Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.*

9:03 AM    **Public Comment** *none*

9:10 AM    **Approve meeting agenda and May MRC meeting minutes** *Christina Koons*  
No changes proposed for the agenda or the minutes. All in favor of approving May minutes, minutes approved.

9:04 AM    **NWSC meeting report to the MRC** *Christina Koons*  
Meeting highlights with attached MRC reports were sent out. Christina provides a few updates from other MRC's, reminder about scientist 'speed dating'. Christina and Frankie briefly discuss how to best use COASST volunteers.  
For NWSC conference November 18-19 in La Conner – discussion of meeting in person/hybrid/virtual, requirements for vaccination and masks, a survey was sent but more feedback is needed. Most MRC thinks in person is best.  
Lucas: we have a hall reserved, OR should we shoot for an earlier time when we can meet outdoors?  
Frankie: all county volunteers and advisory committee members need to be vaccinated



ACTION ITEM: can we check to see if that's required in other counties?

Christina: there is talk of an outdoor gathering in Padilla Bay in September

9:13 AM **Update on Marine Advisory Committees staffing and meetings**

*Kendra Smith*

- Discussion around meeting format – virtual vs. in-person

We've had a few changes in work delivery of the marine program. Marta is going down to .2 FTE next month, partial retirement and continued work with derelict vessels. We're positioned to move forward with a lot of marine projects, Frankie will be new marine project manager. Sam is still in charge of salmon recovery but picking up NW Straits and some of LIO stuff. New staff-member is the "project coordinator", will help manage volunteer programs and oversee small projects (while Sam oversees large regional grants), will oversee grant management.

We've changed agenda to, "marine advisory committees" –integrating MRC and LIO to avoid repeating updates

QUESTIONS

Christina: what about attrition in merging these two groups together?

Kendra: concern that LIO was being driven by staff, we want to open the door for more citizen engagement there.

Christina: what about Tribal participation in the LIO, how can we ensure that inclusion?

Kendra: Stan Walsh was the representative, and Patti in the past when available. Lisa Watson is named participant

Marta: going forward we'll be responding to RFP's, we'd like to be able to get input on incoming funding. All geographic funds will be competitively bid by state agencies, not allocated specifically for the LIO. it will be a competitive bidding process starting this fall, it'll be about priorities. Any local entity can choose to bid

Level: it would be good for this group to be familiar with how LIO was established and how funding is processed, honor the intent that the process is inclusive. If there are RFP's prioritized by Tribes, that should carry some weight.

This resolution established the Action Agenda Oversight Group (AAOG):

<https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/3167/Resolution-23-2010>

and this resolution clarified the roles/responsibilities of the Accountability Oversight Committee (AOC):

<https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/3199/Resolution-55-2010>

Kendra: as of yesterday, required to provide both virtual and in-person meeting space, there will be a notation with meeting announcements about that location, so lack of internet isn't a barrier for anyone to participate

Frankie: Do we want to meet in person quarterly? Or all virtual, all in person, a hybrid? That's open for discussion.

Carl: like the idea of an in-person quarterly meeting; quarterly because it's hard to come over to SJI every month

Karin: pandemic still isn't over. Currently dealing with a huge uptick. Great to meet outside, still need to mask

Christina: agree, quarterly in person and mostly online. What about meeting on different islands sometimes?

Kendra: Still required to provide zoom option even when we decided to meet in person.

Kailey: When would this new type of meeting start?

Kendra: phase in now when weather is good, next in-person meeting can be outside

Laura: what about using libraries on each island and making space available there?

ACTION ITEM: Kendra will check into that idea of using libraries for virtual meetings space

9:49 AM **2022-2023 MRC project proposals - Action required**

*Frankie Robertson*

It's time to put together projects for next year's grant amendment. Need approval from the MRC.

Task 1 is to host another Marine Managers workshop to finalize and review the MSA plan and prioritize identified strategies. Task 2 is to continue with PFSS efforts and Seabin. We've removed killer whale tales as a deliverable.

Task 3: continue derelict vessel prevention, we have funding for Marta's time to continue adding vessels to database and prioritize list for removal, and expand community awareness

Paul: how much funding is there for this relative to other years? What about drifting creosote pilings etc.?

Frankie: that can be reported through the MyCoast app, that gets through to DNR

Paul: can that data get to transfer station where they field a lot of questions? Especially about beach trash disposal

Marta: these are two different programs – Money for derelict vessels we need to use in the next year. For creosote we have some different funding. More info about how to report both is needed.

Task 4: Eelgrass habitat protection, continue with vessel monitoring, buoy maintenance at Odlin. More buoys due to go in at a few other locations. County-wide buoy assessment, probably with an intern and mostly desk-based GIS

Task 5: False Bay Monitoring and Outreach, intern overseeing *ulva* data collection, engagement with visitors.

Frankie: MRC members welcome to put project proposals, that's what retreat is for in November/December

Lovel: agree with Christina about the issue of vessel traffic, and the ERTV, we did the study but there's a lot more we can do to continue that advocacy. Could that fit into projects for this year or does that need to wait?

Frankie: these are just projects with associated grant deliverables. The oil prevention work can continue.

More discussion between Marta and Lovel about how to move forward about coordinating work on this effort

MOTION: Phil moves to approve all projects (Finalize MSA, PFSS/Seabin, derelict vessel prevention, eelgrass protection, and False Bay monitoring) going forward as described, Lovel seconds. All in favor. Motion approved.

10:21 AM **Jackson Beach Creosote piling removal**

Frankie: government funding for 12 months from the time contract is signed with NOAA. 117 derelict creosote pilings. Estimated cost between \$175-200K. Jackson Beach is a spawning habitat for pacific sand lance. Eelgrass nearby. valued recreation area. Would the MRC like to use congressionally directed funding for this purpose?

Phil: yes, we approved it through LIO, it needs to get done, since it's time-sensitive we should move forward

Jeff: I'm all for it, but how specific do we need to be – can we coordinate with to bring in more creosote to pick up?

Kendra: interesting idea, we can talk to contractor about that, they'll be coming in with a barge.

Frankie: this is something we could achieve during water-work season, after September

MOTION: Kendra moves that MRC approve and forward to county council the proposal of using these congressional funds for the removal of pilings at Jackson Beach. Jeff seconds, all in favor. Motion passes

10:31AM **MRC Project Updates – Frances Robertson**

- Plastic Free Salish Sea (PFSS) – SeaBin and other project updates – *Adam Parrot, Karin Roemers-Kleven*

Adam: the Seabin is at the Port, installed next to floating restrooms. Plans to maintain it daily, display results.

Frankie: the new intern, Sierra, will lead the daily monitoring on the Seabin, also high school volunteers

Karin: UW labs had Open House on May 21 and we were there to represent MRC, talked to about 50 people,

- False Bay – continuing visitor surveys started in 2020. Would be great if more MRC members signed up!  
ACTION ITEM: Frankie sends out google sign-up sheet to all MRC members

Sierra will start ulva surveys this month, ready to train anyone. If interested in participating coordinate with her

- Vessel Monitoring – We have an online form this year, until we deal with the hiccups people monitoring vessels (Jeff, Christina, Kailey, Carl), please email photos directly to Frankie.

Other updates: it's Orca Awareness month. social media assets – please share MRC posts when you see them.

And subcommittee members are wrapping up spreadsheet for strategic actions in MSA plan.

10:46 AM **CAG projects** – *Sam Whitridge*

- 2022 SRFB Grant Round Update

It's a complicated grant round this year. This is when CAG plugs into the process. Sam reviews the timeline.

The North Shore Conservation easement is up for PSAR large cap funds. Sam reviews the other projects, two are "Cleared" and three are "Projects of Concern" and four are "Needs more Information." June 24 is the deadline for proposals – CAG scores at the July meeting based on socioeconomic perspective.

ACTION: Sam will send out project proposals, criteria, and scores sheets. Scores needed at or before July meeting.

Reviewing costs, as of right now we could almost fund all projects with our current allocation. Sam discusses some details of how other possible funds and how they would be allocated. If so we'll have some decisions to make about spending – based on rankings we can bump up budgets on some projects, cost increase on active projects. SRFB may be flexible and allow us to kick some to next year if we can't spend it all.

Beth: FYI – budget for the Sorensen project has shifted slightly, will be updated with the final permit application.

10:59 AM Break

*11:05 – 11:59 meeting focused on LIO. For Minutes related to this portion of the meeting please see*

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11:59 AM **Wrap up and Adjourn meeting**

*Marta Green*



San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



SAN JUAN LOCAL INTEGRATING ORGANIZATION

## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG-LIO Meeting Agenda

**Thursday July 7, 2022**  
**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 892 8687 4949 Passcode: 105206

Call in number: +1 253 215 8782 US

*While this is a virtual meeting, a public meeting place is available at the County Legislative Building, Small Meeting Room at 55 2<sup>nd</sup> St. in Friday Harbor for those without mobile phone or internet access.*

9:00 AM	<p><b>Convene MRC Meeting – Christina Koons</b></p> <p><b>Coast Salish Acknowledgement</b></p> <p><i>Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that has been passed down from generation to generation.</i></p>
9:05 AM	<b>Public Comment</b>
9:10 AM	<p><b>Approve meeting agenda – All</b></p> <p><b>Approve April MRC meeting minutes – MRC Members</b></p>
9:15 AM	<p><b>San Juan County Marine Program - Sam Whitridge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Who is your team?</i></li> <li>• <i>Welcome Tyler!</i></li> <li>• <i>MRC Logo</i></li> </ul>
9:30 AM	<b>Review of Marine Advisory Committee meeting format &amp; expectations – The Marine Team</b>
9:45 AM	<b>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Phil Green</b>
9:45 AM	<p><b>Project Updates</b></p> <p><b>MRC projects – Frances Robertson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PFSS – SeaBin and other project updates – Adam Parrot</li> <li>• False Bay</li> <li>• Vessel Monitoring</li> </ul>

- MSA strategic action review – what to expect for August meeting.

10:00 AM

**Adjourn MRC Meeting**  
**Convene CAG Meeting**  
**2022 Grant review and scoring**

10:55 AM

**Crescent Beach Feasibility Study final report** - *Byron Rot*

11:25 AM

**Committee member news and any other business**

11:30 AM

**Adjourn CAG Meeting**  
**Convene LIO Meeting**  
**2023-2025 LIO Contract** – *Sam Whitridge*

**Puget Sound Partnership update** – *Matt Colston*

11:55 AM

**Approve LIO Minutes** – *LIO Members*

12:00 PM

**Adjourn LIO Meeting**



San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG-LIO Meeting Minutes July 7, 2022

July 7, 2022

MRC & CAG Meeting Minutes

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Matt Arata, Carl Davis, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genter, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Adam Parrott, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Megan Dethier

**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Paul Andersson, Matt Colston, Ray Glaze, Marta Green, Lucas Hart, Sasha Horst, Kat Moore, Frances Robertson, Byron Rot, Kendra Smith, Jamie Stephens, Sam Whitridge

9:02 AM **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement**

*Christina Koons*

*Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.*

9:03 AM **Public Comment**

*none*

9:04 AM **Approve meeting agenda and June MRC meeting minutes**

*Christina Koons*

Lovel proposed one edit, Sam has made that change. Lovel moves to approve June minutes. Minutes approved.

9:05 AM **San Juan County Marine Program**

*Sam*

*Whitridge*

• *Who is your team?*

excited to introduce restructured team. introductory materials sent out last week to help orient to new format.

- *Welcome Tyler!*

Tyler Davis, new Marine Project Coordinator – support, outreach, committee coordination, grant work. Sam is Marine Program coordinator working with NW Straits and PSP, coordinating with SRFB, lead with local and regional advisory committee coordination. Frankie is Marine Project Manager, developing/implementing capital and marine projects.

Kendra: now we have three full-time equivalents in the marine program, it's the biggest program we have

- *MRC Logo*

Frankie: plan to refresh our logo, one of Tyler's first efforts. who's interested in participating in a branding subcommittee? work with a local designer, hope to have something by September meeting to decide on.

-> Carl, Kailey, Christina, Adam are interested

Carl: could we also strengthen slogan? Current one is weak YES

Kailey: has MRC ever had swag?

Frankie: we need vests for outreach events, tabling, dock-talks. But it's difficult due to how funding works

Sasha: things like vests that can be used for events are great, but give-aways that people keep can be problematic.

- Discussion of products that may have been produced in distant past: tote bags, other 'logo-wear', etc.

ACTION ITEM: let's pick this up again once the committee has a logo

9:18 AM **Review of Marine Advisory Committees meeting format & expectations** *The Marine Team*

Some questions came up after last meeting about how to function as a combined MRC/LIO, e.g., how often LIO meets.

Sam: -MRC will continue to operate separate from LIO and maintain separate membership

-MRC will continue to serve in CAG role, Citizens Advisory Group to Lead Entity for salmon recovery. Combined meeting time down to 3 hours, encourage cross-pollination among committees. Other counties have adopted this structure

-MRC and LIO will continue separate projects, MRC may review LIO workplans but not with power of approval

-This includes restructuring of staff responsibilities to better facilitate committees and collaboration between them

Megan: this sounds less radical than what was discussed, is that because there was pushback to original proposal?

Sam: discussion with NW Straits and PSP about how to structure and importance of committee maintaining autonomy

Lucas: NW Straits executive committee saw differences in necessary membership of MRC v. LIO. From PS Partnership, reasons behind structure of committee makeup. Process fatigue came up, for MRC members now 'serving' on LIO

Sam: to create clear delineation between committees we will continue to adjourn between meetings

Christina: so MRC members could exit at conclusion of MRC meeting but invited to attend LIO if they'd like?

Frankie: yes but encouraged to stay because many issues and projects are the same, this is a good way to familiarize MRC with other things going on. E.g., creosote work, it'll make MRC members more strongly informed

Phil: LIO once had bigger membership. looking to expand LIO back to original size? will Frankie take over Byron's work?

Frankie: I'll be taking some duties, and I'm not leaving the MRC – we've just delineated more of what specific duties will be, so I'll no longer be getting into the minutia of collecting volunteer hours – and note, those are due now

9:35 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC**

*Phil*

*Green*

- Save the date: there will be a one-day conference on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> 11am-5pm in La Conner, details to come.
- New app, 'passport to marine adventure' – it's a game that gets to local sites where projects are happening, links

Frankie: it would be great if some of you could test-run the app, some things for the San Juan sites weren't correct.

Question: update on congressional funding?

Lucas: proposal submitted to NOAA, now waiting for feedback. If approved, we'd have a year to use those funds.

ACTION ITEM: Lucas thinks amount for SJC would be a little over \$200K, he'll check on that and send to MRC

9:39 AM **MRC Project Updates – Frances Robertson**

- Plastic Free Salish Sea (PFSS) – SeaBin and other project updates – *Adam Parrot*  
Adam is leading the charge– when installed SeaBin found it needed a new pump so now working on that. It's plastic-free July. We're putting out materials on Facebook. The subcommittee continues to meet  
Kendra: solid waste team is putting out an article to inform businesses about state law regarding plastic utensils
- False Bay  
Sierra has begun monitoring; at least every other week/sometimes weekly. There are opportunities to join her, I've emailed her contact information to some of you who were interested. Visitor outreach has been slow
- Vessel Monitoring –  
Volunteers have been monitoring since Memorial day, seems like hiccups have been worked out of the online form  
Phil: was Bell Point put in as a site? It automatically enters FH tide height, no option to change that  
ACTION ITEM: Phil please email issues regarding tide station to Franke to forward to developer  
Jeff: Wondering what size photo to submit, there's a delay – I'm not sure if I'm duplicating or resending  
ACTION ITEM: Tyler will check into that this week (specifically, what has been received from Jeff)  
Carl: photo must be less than 10 MB
- MSA strategic action review – what to expect for August meeting  
The review/compilation is complete and in draft format. Will focus on actions in the table for the August meeting  
ACTION ITEM: Please be on the lookout for this material coming out soon in next few weeks

9:49 AM **Adjourn MRC, Convene CAG Meeting. 2022 Grant Review and Scoring**

*Sam*

*Whitridge*



Scoring Salmon Recovery proposals. TAG has had two meetings, Sam sent out TAG's average scores and rankings.

Sam shares budget spreadsheet and explains details. Still sorting out what will happen with North Shore Easement.

Also, three projects of concern: the SJC coastal wetland mapping, SJC 20 year eelgrass health assessment, and stream and culvert mapping update. We won't know until end of next week if those have been cleared by State review panel.

We have until mid-August to submit ranked list so we can discuss one more time at August meeting. The TAG will have one more meeting and they'll provide a recommendation for the CAG to consider in August.

Megan: in some past years there's been fund-swapping with other counties, so could we bank some of these funds?

Sam: I can investigate that. And we do have an allocation trade coming back to us from North Olympic lead entity.

Karin: in local newspaper when they talked about the Glenwood project, MRC/CAG weren't mentioned.

Sam: seems like that article focused on the acquisition and maybe funding was still in the proposal stage at that time.

Christina: what did TAG say about North Shore Conservation easement

Sam: The TAG and SRFB were supportive, but wanted more information. TAG still hopeful this can go forward for PSAR large cap. There wasn't a lot of project-level resistance, it was #2 on their list just after the Watmough project

Christina: there's a lot of buzz about it on Orcas, the opportunity to have that much access to shoreline doesn't exist on our Island. Plus it's far from highly trafficked areas so relieves pressure. How to make it viable for salmon recovery?

ACTION ITEM: Sam will notify CAG with more about this project outcome and circle back after meeting with SJPT

Phil: all the POC are planning projects, doesn't seem to be a coincidence – they don't like to fund that type of project?

Sam: different reasons for each. More scrutiny on planning projects that they'll lead to real salmon recovery actions.

Ray: About public access to North Shore, we share a tension between the importance of public access and the need to preserve the habitat for salmon. The management plan will be an important component for that reason.

Level: It seems like there aren't questions that specifically address the areas we're supposed to be scoring.

Can that be considered in future re-writes of the application form? This was a bigger challenge this year more than most

Sam: After this grant round we could look at the criteria and how to make it fit better into application structure

10:11 AM      **Scoring**

Sam: I received scores from six of you via email. Folks can still send me scores by next week if you're not ready today.

Sam shares spreadsheet, shows CAG scores already submitted. It will automatically show ranking with scores

Note: if conflict of interest, please recuse yourself – muted on that project. Brief discussion of who is recused on what

- Sorenson Shoreline Armor Removal  
9, 9, 9, 8, 10, 6. Matt and Adam new to process – will observe for now. Sam will compile comments received.
- Garrison  
8, 8, 6, 9, 6, 7. Needs more information. TAG liked it but it fell lower on their list, related largely to unpermitted culvert.  
Phil: I understand the culvert was a big issue at Garrison, but it also seemed like not all landowners were on board.  
Sam: the biggest concern was that culvert  
Ray: no overarching strategy for the whole system. Also the bass was an issue. It's such a highly impacted system.
- Eelgrass Recovery phase 2  
8, 7, 8, 7, 6
- Neck Point (Friends of SJ's) – this one also needed more information  
8, 8, 8, 5
- Coastal wetland mapping  
8, 9, 9, 9
- 20-year eelgrass health assessment  
9, 9, 8, 7  
Megan: there are many embayments experiencing decline in eelgrass, can't respond to change until it's documented  
Sam: Tina did well responding to review panel feedback, I hope it conveyed the importance of this study
- Watmough, one of two projects that cleared initially  
10, 9, 9, 9, 10  
Megan: project looks amazing but nothing in there about how public access would be managed, signage, etc.  
Jeff: that seemed to be a consideration, I think Land Bank will do that in time  
Megan: we're supposed to score on evidence that this is a plan, nothing about what they'd do in the future if funded  
Sam: TAG gave feedback that for management plan, they're concerned about BLM involvement, and potential transfer of the property. There are some restrictions in the funding programs, management partnership restrictions
- Stream and Culvert mapping updated, also a POC  
9, 9, 9, 6  
Jeff: wetlands are carbon sinks, huge mitigators for climate change. That's why I scored this high  
Sam: this was mentioned as a data gap in the salmon recovery plan, and review panel made it a POC. Part of that was due to not seeing previous work done by Wild fish Conservancy not leading to projects. And landowner access issues.

- Backshore roads feasibility, the third ranked CAG project (7<sup>th</sup> for TAG)  
9, 9, 9, 8
- North Shore Conservation Easement – we’re scoring this in terms of a scaled down project  
9, 8, 10, 10, 9  
Level: this project documented public support they received. It should be a factor that this will to provide public access.

ACTION ITEM: Send Sam scoring sheets via email (scan or send as word doc/pdf), also send comments for sponsors

Sam pulls up new rankings as they currently stand and reviews ranking:

Watmough, then North Shore, then Sorenson, Neck Point, SJC Coastal Wetland Mapping & Recovery, etc.

Sam: we’ll finalize this in August meeting so we can submit by mid-August

10:44 AM      break

10: 50 AM      **Crescent Beach Feasibility Study Final Report**

*Byron Rot*

This was funded between 2019-2020 grant rounds

Byron: one of the best salt marshes in the San Juans. Shows culvert on map. Wetland is evident behind the house/kayak business. This project is about upsizing the culvert, look at different alternatives to provide full tidal flush into the salt marsh. Wetland is restricted by current culvert (undersized 1’). 3 houses potentially impacted by flooding.

Photos shows the 1’ culvert opening - regularly plugged and then water accumulates in the wetland. The feeder bluff erodes, deposition along crescent beach. Sea level rise combined with winter storms. Property owner is in denial

Study design: Coastal Geo surveyed, LiDAR, used existing model, other geomorphic inputs (wave action/sea level rise,).

Study results: Crescent Beach Dr. is a sea level rise poster child. Byron shares FEMA 2016 projections for sea level rise. Table shows specific projections for each property, e.g., the house with the kayak business could be flooded 9 times a year by 2100. Study shows the impact of sea level rise. Model shows risk if culvert stays in place, waves over-top road.

Byron reviews potential alternatives, first three options are non feasible. Coastal Geo modelling, if culvert stayed in place road overtopped by 2050 with two closest houses flooding. By 2100, road is 2-3’ under water.

QUESTIONS

Ray: what about increased rainfall, not just sea level rise. When floods start, won’t those people start armoring?

Byron: they’d need to raise houses, septic wouldn’t be permissible. They have no way forward

Kendra: this study is the first of many conversations we’ll need to have with communities with this coastal/freshwater squeeze. May not be able to accommodate septic systems. As we start toward managed retreat we’ll be working with lawyers, etc. about a reasonable policy. This is a good example report to share with others. In the sustainable tourism plan, this location was identified as a destination improvement opportunity, back off road to make beach available.

Carl: graphs show increased flooding, but said sea level rise wasn't included. What else makes flooding increase?

Byron: one slide showed FEMA's flood modelling without sea level rise. But Coastal Geo models included sea level rise. There's the pool elevation but the real impact is the wave action from storms, what we'll feel first is more big storms.

Karin: what about this stubborn property owner, at the mercy of her own denial? What are the options?

Byron: She could sell now, Land Bank would be interested. In future County could decide whether to condemn or not.

Kendra: With a mortgage, flood insurance is required. But many owners own properties outright so not in place

-More discussion of FEMA programs to help property owners elevate homes, one model with a 'breakaway' garage.

11:30 AM      **Adjourn CAG Meeting**



San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



SAN JUAN LOCAL INTEGRATING ORGANIZATION

## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG-LIO Meeting Agenda

**Thursday, August 4, 2022**  
**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer or mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 259 238 873 827

Passcode: WNJufB

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 360-726-3293,865248973#](tel:+13607263293,865248973) United States, Seattle

Phone Conference ID: 865 248 973#

*While this is a virtual meeting, a public meeting place is available at the County Legislative Building, Legislative Hearing Room, at 55 2nd St. in Friday Harbor for those without mobile phone or internet access.*

9:00 AM	<p><b>Convene MRC Meeting – Christina Koons</b>  <b>Coast Salish Acknowledgement</b>  <i>Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that has been passed down from generation to generation.</i></p>
9:05 AM	<b>Public Comment</b>
9:10 AM	<p><b>Approve meeting agenda – All</b>  <b>Approve July MRC meeting minutes – MRC Members</b></p>
9:15 AM	<p><b>MRC Housekeeping – Tyler Davis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair and Vice Chair Elections</li> <li>• MRC Reps to NWSC</li> </ul>
9:25 AM	<b>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Phil Green</b>
9:30 AM	<p><b>Project Updates</b>  <b>MRC projects – Frances Robertson/Tyler Davis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PFSS – SeaBin and other project updates</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• False Bay</li><li>• Vessel Monitoring</li></ul>
9:45 AM	<b>Committee member updates and any other business</b>
9:50 AM	<b>MSA Plan Strategic Action Review – <i>Frances Robertson</i></b>
11:00 AM	<b>Adjourn MRC Meeting Convene CAG Meeting</b>
11:00 PM	<b>Final Review/Approval of 2022 San Juan County Salmon Recovery Ranked Project List</b>
12:00 PM	<b>Adjourn CAG Meeting</b>

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San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG Meeting Minutes August 4, 2022

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genter, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Adam Parrott, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Beth Tate

**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Alan Chapman, Matthew Colston, Tyler Davis, Kathryn Moore, Frances Robertson, Byron Rot, Kendra Smith, Sam Whitridge

9:10 AM pre-meeting chatter about the recent Navy growler ruling, <https://apnews.com/article/lawsuits-california-navy-environmental-policy-el-centro-6b13c9b8a701c9450688b54a8521ea85>

9:11 AM **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement** Christina Koons  
*Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.*

9:12 AM **Public Comment** none

9:13 AM **Approve meeting agenda and July MRC meeting minutes** Christina Koons  
No proposed changes to the agenda. Kendra moves to approve July minutes, Christina seconds. Minutes approved.

9:14 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC** Christina Koons  
September 16 collaborative conservation workshop at Padilla Bay for NWSF and MRC's, salmon lunch, held outside.

There was discussion of derelict vessel removal program. \$1.1 million secured, working with Tribal partners and MRC's to plan vessel removals and to pilot a derelict vessel turn-in program. Lucas Hart explained program details. Lovel: This is a phenomenal one-time funding opportunity. I urge MRC participation, funds must be spent by Jan 2023

Frankie: these are the congressionally directed funds allocated to each MRC approximately \$200K, SJ MRC already approved the use of SJ funds for the removal of pilings at Jackson

Phil: I thought these were different funds that weren't allocated yet, strictly for derelict vessels.

**ACTION ITEM:** Frankie will clarify with the NW straits commission

Christina: back to the update, our staff/meeting reorganization was mentioned. Cecilia Gobin wants to know how our reorganization benefits our salmon recovery work. Should we put together a small presentation about our system?

Also, Terry Williams has passed, he was a founder of the NW Straits Initiative and promoted Tribal partnership

Next commission meeting is August 26<sup>th</sup>, Julia Parrish wants to bring back scientist speed-dating  
Level: maybe MRC can present to the NW Indian Fisheries Commission, also NW Straits, about what SJ county is doing.

And Terry Williams was instrumental in creating Action oversight group, and active with Tribes in LIO process

Karin: what is the definition of derelict vessel? Any that is in disrepair and at anchor? Or appears derelict in a marina?

Frankie: there are specific criteria, we have details on county website. DNR has their own criteria

Adam: Marina has our own policies on derelict vessels. At anchor look at growth on vessel and line, when last moved.

Q: does county have an ongoing inventory of vessels? And can we use that as a base instead of duplicating the work?

Frankie: yes, we're building a database based on marine patrols we've conducted in cooperation with sheriff's dept. Best is to contact the owners and they resolve. If we're unable to contact then we start prioritizing vessels on the list

Christina: to confirm, list is needed by October? Can that be added to a scope of work for the MRC?

Frankie: first step is to clarify fund (if already allocated to Jackson). Vessel patrols are hard in summer, best after fall

Kendra: Marta has been working on a plan to deal with larger more expensive vessels (like El Capitan)

#### 9:33 AM **MRC Housekeeping**

*Tyler Davis*

- Chair and Vice Chair Elections

We have 5 positions up for election: chair, vice-chair, rep to NWSC and alternate, and the rep to the LIO. The floor is open for nominations, and opportunity for incumbents to remain in positions. There are technically no term limits.

Phil: I'm alternate to NWSC, also rep to the LIO. This is my last year on MRC, may be a good time to transition in someone else

Karin: I'm happy to continue serving in the role of vice-chair

Phil: as alternate to Christina for NWS, that's attending their monthly meeting and report for the MRC (summary prepared by Frankie and Tyler), then responsible to report back from that meeting to the MRC about NW Straits in general. As far as LIO with new restructuring, all MRC is invited, meetings are shortened. responsibility to prep when discussion of allocating funds.

Kendra: and now that LIO won't have responsibility for those extra funds we're figuring out function, being updated on projects. Diminished involvement in decision-making in contrast with MRC involvement in salmon recovery projects.

Would Karin be willing to serve as NW Straits alternate? Then we can table the role of LIO rep and check in with Matt.

Maybe we can just have a NW straits rep and alternate, now the MRC as a body is the rep to the LIO.

ACTION ITEM: Kendra will circle back with Matt regarding this idea

Still have Christina as chair and first rep to NW Straits, Karin is willing to be vice chair and alternate.

MOTION: Level moves to approve the slate of officers, Phil seconds. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passes

Q: work committee on the logo?

Tyler: Kailey and Tyler met about logo, developed criteria and have designer(s) in mind. If there's input, please let Tyler know

#### 9:46AM **MRC Project Updates –**

*Frances Robertson/Tyler Davis*

- Plastic Free Salish Sea (PFSS) – SeaBin and other project updates

Issues continue, interesting story to share with broader NWSC - may present something for September workshop

Adam: we ended up thinking with our staff, we could build something like this – it may be easier

Jeff: what sort of maintenance has it received? Was it rinsed and stored properly after last season?

Frankie: it was stored in Sam's barn over-winter, but maybe it needs more attention

Jeff: I like the idea of building a better version, if I can get over there I'd love to take a look and help



Phil: would NW Straits have money to help out with something like this?

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will follow up on that, may not have that much flexibility but it's a good question  
More on PFSS: challenges include interaction with the public, brainstorm ways to campaign on social media.  
Reach out to beach stewards to rejuvenate that program. Some folks are active, regularly cleaning but not in feedback.

GICU is coming up on September 24<sup>th</sup>, we had over 200 participants in April, let's eclipse that in September.

- False Bay

Wrapped visitor surveys in July, thanks to all who participated. Sierra will continue ulva study until end of August.

- Vessel Monitoring –

Continues submissions through September, kicking off a series of aerial surveys to assess vessels in county

Question: how funds came up for new hires in recent hiring process? Included new allocated funds for Commission?

Kendra: We were allocated \$40K from the levy lid lift 2 years ago from general fund, and creating staff time with funds we secure from grants for projects. Also, shifted staff time around, gained additional 0.6 in FTE. It will be key to continue getting additional project-based grant funds. County Council has supported salmon recovery grants and usually contribute match allocations, we put county-current money into the system by having projects on the ground

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

Karin: Biden administration recently supported breaching of dams. How is this something we can support?

Christina: Can we be more informed about the issue, could a regional expert or local representative talk to the MRC?

Level: I can provide more info. Draft report issued by Murray/Inslee and a NOAA report, I can send out links to those.

Orca protection groups sent in a comment letter about the importance of salmon recovery as food supply. Also, in terms of process, MRC can make a recommendation to the Council but can't take direct action by itself

Karin: it's an opportunity for us to reach out, collaborate. There's momentum and adding our efforts could help

Kendra: it may be worth a letter of support coming from NW Straits, a coalition of folks from around Puget Sound

Karin: maybe we can start by reaching out to Orca/Salmon alliance, ACTION ITEM: I can do that and report back

#### 10:16 AM **MSA Plan Strategic Action Review**

*Frances Robertson*

Started last December when core threats were discussed, then actions that fell into key criteria. We cross-checked so that MSA strategic actions would encompass other plans. 72 actions came out of this in 10 categories.

There's still work to be done on some actions to make less nebulous, this is an opportunity particularly for the actions not yet underway, give approval if we're going in the right direction. Frankie shares summary table.

Jeff: the marine stewardship area encompasses the whole county and that's recognized by county governance?

Frankie: yes, designated by County council in 2004 and MRC tasked with a plan first drafted in 2007. This is the update of that plan. Aiming to craft something that can be incorporated into County code. We'll work to prioritize this list of actions at our next Marine Managers' Workshop next spring with agency partners.

Jeff: I'm still unclear with how to implement. Like on climate resiliency, how does that go into the comprehensive plan?

Frankie: There's now an Environmental Planner, Brooke Sullivan, who can help guide especially with regulatory actions

Level: on Oil spill prevention, can you point us out to action steps? what's the time frame for us to provide input?

Frankie: direct to the table that includes all actions, kept specific steps deliberately vague. Goal is to have the

entire plan finished and ready for review by end of year. need feedback on strategic actions before meeting in September.

Beth: Looking at the action criteria, I'm wondering what's the benefit of that category? combine some categories?

Frankie: Brooke will help a lot from planning aspect. from MRC members, is there anything else we should consider?

**ACTION ITEM:** If not today, please look through actions please and send Frankie feedback with track edits

Christina: are there any other counties in NWSC that have gone through this process?

Frankie: Island and Snohomish did a joint plan for a significantly smaller area. Once we have a firmer list of actions this will go out for review from our State/NGO/Tribal partners before implementation next spring.

-some discussion of MRC participation column in the table

10:55 AM short break

11:00 AM **Adjourn MRC, Convene CAG. Final Review/Approval of 2022 Salmon Recovery Ranked Project List**

*Sam Whitridge*

Sam shares list of projects, highlights ones approved to move forward, project of concern, and those not funded  
QUESTIONS

Jeff: how does manipulation of funds work for some smaller projects? Could we have pulled from other sources?

Sam: we were maxed out on funds available this round. There are other funding sources that may be better suited, we try to advise sponsors on other sources. Benefit to salmon makes up a bulk of scoring criteria

- Discussion of large Land Bank acquisition project, communication breakdowns between SJPT and County Council about what's included in PSAR large cap funds. Proposal focused on shoreline parts of parcel but intent for easement on entire property. Land Bank can't use properties purchased for housing; intent for conservation lands.

If MRC funds the North Shore project that takes some pressure off PSAR large cap funds. Tag has approved this expenditure, they felt reassured communication issues around this property would not affect the proposed protection.

Byron: TAG were also in favor of conservation easement on full property due to details of stormwater drainage

Christina: did that mean there wouldn't be facilities built there?

Sam: there has been some discussion of housing conservation corps volunteers but not low-income housing. The plan is for this to be a public access site eventually which would necessitate some services for public access.

**MOTION:** Jeff moves to approve the SRFB ranked list on behalf of the CAG and to endorse TAG recommendation that North Shore easement be solely for conservation. Kailey seconds. None opposed, Kendra abstains. The motion carries.

Sam will submit this next week. Exciting, strong list of projects, over \$2.2 million invested in salmon recovery.

11:24 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**



San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



SAN JUAN LOCAL INTEGRATING ORGANIZATION

## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG-LIO Meeting Agenda

Thursday, Sept 1, 2022  
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

In-Person Meeting at San Juan Island Grange  
152 First St N, Friday Harbor

*While this meeting is in-person, a virtual meeting option is available for those who wish to attend remotely*

Microsoft Teams meeting  
Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 256 508 025 098

Passcode: vRfuDq

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 360-726-3293](tel:+13607263293), [179377476#](tel:+179377476) United States, Seattle

Phone Conference ID: 179 377 476#

9:00 AM	<p><b>Convene MRC Meeting – Christina Koons</b>  <b>Coast Salish Acknowledgement</b>  <i>Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that has been passed down from generation to generation.</i></p>
9:05 AM	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>
9:10 AM	<p><b>Approve meeting agenda – All</b>  <b>Approve August MRC meeting minutes – MRC Members</b></p>
9:15 AM	<p><b>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons</b>          -Update on NWSF Passport to Marine Adventure App- <i>Jessica Page</i></p>
9:20 AM	<p><b>MRC Housekeeping – Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis/Frances Robertson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marine Program Staff Roles Clarification</li> <li>• Staff vs. Committee Member Roles</li> <li>• Sept 16 Collaborative Conservation Workshop</li> <li>• MRC Logo Update</li> <li>• Derelict Vessel Work Group update/MRC rep for Work Group</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRC rep to LIO</li> <li>• MRC retreat scheduling</li> </ul>
9:50 AM	<b>Debrief and Discussion re: FV Aleutian Isle Oil Spill- <i>Sam Whitridge</i></b> -Potential MRC Sponsorship of Community Workshop re: Oil Spill Response
10:50 AM	<b>Adjourn MRC Meeting</b> <b>Convene CAG Meeting</b>
10:50 AM	<b>SRFB Grant Round Final Updates- <i>Sam Whitridge</i></b>
10:55 AM	<b>Committee Member News and Other Business</b>
11:00 AM	<b>Adjourn CAG Meeting</b> <b>Convene LIO Meeting</b>
11:00 AM	<b>LIO Updates- <i>Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECB meeting Report</li> <li>• LIO Coordinator Retreat Report</li> <li>• LIO Capacity Funding Update            -Spend Down Plan for 2022            -2023-2025 Scope of Work/Budget</li> <li>• Fish tales update- <i>Frances Robertson</i></li> <li>• Countywide Creosote Assessment Update- <i>Frances Robertson</i></li> <li>• PSP Updates- <i>Matt Colston</i></li> </ul>
12:00 PM	<b>Adjourn LIO Meeting</b>



San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG Meeting Minutes September 1, 2022

**MRC, CAG and LIO Committee Members in Attendance:** Paul Andersson, Matt Arata, Carl Davis, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genter, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Kendra Smith

**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Matthew Colston, Brendan Cowan, Tyler Davis, Marta Green, Sasha Horst, Jessica Page, Frances Robertson, Julie Schlenger, Sam Whitridge, Cindy Wolf

9:05 AM **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement**

*Christina Koons*

Welcome, first meeting in person in over two years! *Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.*

9:06 AM Introductions around the room

9:09 AM **Debrief and Discussion re: FV Aleutian Isle Oil Spill –**

*Brendan Cowan*

Brendan is Emergency Management Director for SJC, and an Oil Spill Association board member. In Unified Command emergency response, Brendan represents County, provide local knowledge. This not an official presentation.

Current status: boat still on bottom. Divers hand-cleared nets and plugged some fuel vents. Hope to be able to lift the boat soon. The operation is incredibly complex, the boat is on bedrock at 45-degree angle, etc.

Q: has it been verified how much fuel was in there? Any ROV's, do they help?

Brendan: 2K+ of diesel, and oils in winches etc. Yes many ROV's, provide light, video to show divers what to expect

Q: do they know how this happened?

Brendan: There's an investigation underway working to figure that

Lovel: I was glad Unified command is prepared to reimburse boats who provide work hazing for whales. I hope in future there can be resources dedicated to compensation so that there's no delay. Is that something you can advocate for?

Brendan: Yes. whale-hazing plan will be more robust and structured going forward. Even if we don't succeed in lifting the boat, this was a successful no-notice mobilization exercise. As to compensating, no way to get liability coverage for volunteers with IOSA. A worker is exposed if on the water working and not being paid. For IOSA it costs thousands for an employee's liability coverage. Waivers are legally worthless. Boat employees are covered by their organizations.

L&I can cover work on shore, that's important. IOSA has been delivering booms and other work for which they don't need to be on the water. Maybe IOSA needs some paid staff. At RH, we've seen a high volume of recreational spills in marinas - large sheens that have nothing to do with this incident. Possible more fuel spilled from rec boats in past few weeks than from the Aleutian Isle. Marinas and owners don't always report. Should we be training with marina workers? Maybe MRC can educate boat owners. Annual training for marina staff? Have a Marina operator on MRC

Level: good Coast Guard & Ecology is aware of boaters here. Do they understand the remoteness and difficulty?

Brendan: They're getting the idea it's hard to get here in the summer. We have some contracts with Kenmore to get people here, ensure those responders have access to county vehicles, need to tighten that up with more agencies.

We've been able to figure out housing, Labs has been helpful. Staying at private homes isn't the first choice.

Marta: considering safety concerns, is the alternative to leave the vessel and reduce the hazards?

Brendan: if boat can't be lifted, they'll plug vents as much as possible and leave it. That usually happens in the U.S. (all over Alaska). This is an unprecedented scale of response, \$4million spent, politically high level of attention.

Level: Back during rulemaking in 2012, the County advocated to have more staff and resources based here in the County. this could bring sustainable funding to IOSA for more local response resources.

Brendan: equipment is one thing, but we really need people, 2-3 full time staff. a Dept. of Ecology responder and vessel based in SJ county would be beneficial. I imagine them being tightly coordinated with a local IOSA staff And I don't think it's the best use of our response to spend all efforts in getting there in standard 2 hours. This comes to no-notice drills, we need test that we can do what we say we can. IOSA won't be able handle a spill without outside support. Don't want to give expectation that even with the most robust response a large oil spill could be contained.

Frankie: about hazing whales - NOAA has a plan for SRKW since they are endangered, it involves banging on a pipe, 'herding' the whales away. IOSA gave pipes to a group trained to deploy them. It can only be authorized by NOAA, only for SRKW and not other species - that's a conversation we'll need to have. We have numerous groups based here who know the whales and how to drive boats around them. Those will be our first call before 'boats of opportunity'.

Brendan: Canadians also have hazing program. I think this event will move ours forward

Frankie: Also, what do we think effectiveness is now that whales are much more dispersed. Need to research behavior.

Brendan: This is about expectation setting. This is in the most beautiful weather possible, not November with gales.

Frankie: many of these are small boats hauled out for the winter season, can only operate in certain conditions, hazing only effective in certain conditions. Behaviors are changing and isn't as defined a SRKW season anymore

- *Potential MRC Sponsorship of Community Workshop re: Oil Spill Response?*

Karin: could MRC host a workshop, presentation with all the United team together. Provide a community event?

Brendan: Don't need my permission; if the focus is on response I'd love to be involved. It doesn't always remove negative feelings. But the more the MRC educates itself the better. The NW area contingency plan is a good starting point for understanding the framework. Change gets made by pushing from the inside (government) as well as outside.

Paul: will there be an objective after-action report from the County? At one point would that come out and from who?

Brendan: Coast Guard will likely lead official after-action report. Then we can have other conversations on local level.

Level: can you help this group to draft what are priority concerns are and help to craft the questions to be submitted?

Brendan: Yes, and I also want to preserve/build good relationship with Dept. of Ecology. There's a lot to understand about spill response, diesel disperses quickly not like crude oil. But lesson learned to put out immediate 'media boom'

**10:02 AM Public Comment**

*Phil Green*

Phil: we know avian flu is in SJC, I've been in contact with Frank James. Want to put updates on our website because we have beach stewards. key message is "don't touch the birds". concern could be transmission to people

QUESTION: what should people do when see a dead bird? ANSWER: that information is in the media release

Christina: should people not be touching feathers they find on the beach or on the ground?

Paul: any time you touch bird feathers you should wash your hands. Farms have a security protocol to prevent spread

Karin: see if there are measures that need to be taken, if there's a transmission risk the County needs to put on notice

ACTION ITEM; Lovel: Phil if you're in touch with Dr. James can you relay some of these questions?

Phil: I'll check first to see if there's information in the press release

**10:08 AM Approve meeting agenda and August MRC meeting minutes**

*Christina Koons*

No changes to agenda. Lovel didn't have a chance to read through minutes. Megan moves to approve minutes, Laura Jo seconds. All in favor, none opposed, Lovel abstains. August minutes are approved.

**10:14 AM NWSC meeting report to the MRC**

*Christina Koons*

Karin is new alternate, attended half the meeting. It's last Friday of every month. The reports are sent to all of you.

About derelict vessel removal: funds will be provided to the 7 counties to draw up a list of vessels to be removed

Frankie: each county got \$200K and this group approved using funding to remove creosote pilings at Jackson beach.

Sasha: each MRC was awarded same funding, some MRC's elected to contribute certain amount to derelict vessels.

Sam: there's going to be a call for an MRC representative to be the point person for this, to help review list of vessels

Phil: I sat in on the meetings and volunteered to be the representative, but Marta would be the best person

Frankie: doesn't the representative need to be an MRC member? Sasha and Sam: yes, they do

Marta: I'm working on this already with the sheriff's office, any additional funds could focus on prevention. Now we identify vessels of concern, try to contact owners but when we can't, then MRC could help prioritize removals.

Phil: It's my understanding that the rep would meet with other MRC reps to discuss the list and rate the vessels

Marta: our current list reflects surveys in each of three locations. We made progress with a few owners. It's overwhelming during boating season. Intent is to check those three locations and other locations after Labor Day.

Lovel: We could also apply for funds directly. What's being offered through NW Straits doesn't need to be seen as a cap on what's possible ACTION ITEM: Lovel can follow up with Marta about her source on that

Sam: the requested deadline for the list is October 1<sup>st</sup>

Sasha: the list can be just 'vessels we know of'. Working through an interagency agreement for DNR to do work.

Marta: But then it would be a vessel of concern, and the process through the State to get custody takes over 60 days.

The County is still pursuing El Capitan, can take custody of a boat in a private marina, if there's funding. El Capitan was sold while tied up, new owner never got insurance then bailed. The marina holds the liability.

Christina: can we send information out to marinas to make them aware this is happening?

Paul: can we crowd-source this to the people who are walking/driving by regularly? And does this include derelict docks as well? And with enough media about this program, maybe people more motivated to move their boat themselves.

Frankie: need to talk to Deb Fritz with Towboat, she knows all the boats. And that's the prevention piece

- Phil is ready to be representative for this derelict vessel issue.

Marta: we're focused on open waters first and then marinas.

Frankie: Adam Parrot is heading up their derelict vessel program at the port (e.g., boats must have a working motor)

Marta: I'll get assistance from the Sheriff's dept., identify vessels of concern, put a list together, then we can add to it

Phil: this list will continually be added to. But this money is specifically directed, it won't be the end of the program

Marta: how much money will be left after creosote piling removal? Frankie: none

Phil: we should still be involved even if no additional funds, to have a say in the list and be positioned for next funding

Frankie: this list is an MRC deliverable on the grant

Kendra: there's a button you can click on the MRC website to notify of a derelict vessel, and on County Marine program

- NW Straits Initiative Collaborative Conservation workshop at Padilla Bay on September 16<sup>th</sup>, you're all invited.

Sam has emailed information on how to sign up, if interested let him know. (Sasha just emailed it)

Yellow Island intertidal monitoring project – for 'scientist speed-dating' they invited Chris Mantegna who developed a research study at Yellow Island. She honored Phil and Megan both for their contributions to research at Yellow Island.

They brought in students to study there, some funding by the Doris Duke endowment. She should come talk to MRC.

#### 10:38 AM **-Update on NWSF Passport to Marine Adventure App**

*Jessica Page*

NW Straits foundation is working on this app that teaches about work marine conservation partners are doing, they collect points at each site to use at local businesses. 3 sites per county so far, want to add 3 more. In SJ county it's Lime Kiln, Spring Street landing and Orcas landing. Adding South beach, Obstruction pass and Shark Reef. Interested in local tips, favorite things to do, pictures, ties to MRC work that's been done at the site. OR let us know if you can think of a better site. And we're looking for more businesses to be on the app. Jessica will follow up via email.

Businesses give a small discount to customers who come in with a certain number of points. They need to give a code to the user who comes in and wants to use points. For them it's a marketing tool, gets their name out

#### 10:42 AM **MRC Housekeeping**

*Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis*

##### • Marine Program Staff Roles Clarification

Sam is main point of contact for MRC members to disseminate information or get updates, also serving in role as liaison for salmon recovery, maintaining role with SRFB, CAG & TAG. You can text him anytime (depends on project).

Frankie now in project manager role, involved in implementing capital and non-capital projects in alignment with MSA plan. That'll fall under work with MRC, LIO, and SRFB. Also, SRKW efforts, finishing plan update by end of the year.

Tyler and Sam both working on LIO coordination, meetings. Tyler on website management, maintaining member lists, assisting with delivery of contacts, grants reports. In LIO meeting we'll discuss scope and budgeting; Tyler has done a lot on that. General support with other things, coordination and management of volunteer projects

Kendra: but we need de-tether Frankie from the MRC, she's got capital projects she'll need to be moving on that are labor intensive and time consuming. She now picks up all the marine side of Byron's work, retiring on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Then we'll be recruiting for an environmental design engineer to serve all three programs, who knows CAD and GIS.



Level: is there an organizational tree for department showing who is in charge of each project?

ACTION ITEM: Kendra can make that chart; and we can send around the staff tree list we already have. That also has MRC members listed who are supposed to be helping with deliverables on each project.

- Staff vs. Committee Member Roles

Sasha: the MRC member role is determined by County “powers of duties” rules and procedures. Some member vs. staff roles can vary by county and by project. (Provides some examples from other counties.)

Karin: I’m interested in another MRC conference and talking to other MRC’s about how they do things

Sam: a workshop like that would be helpful, we’ll discuss that more when we have more time

- MRC Logo Update

Identified two local artists, shows examples of their work. Sarah Folden enrolled member of the Cowlitz tribe. And Jason LeClair, Lummi and Nooksak, traditional work, did panels at American camp, experienced with developing logos.

Need to pick one and then get 3-5 options to choose from. Tyler shows a few of Sarah’s rough sketches for the MRC.

Karin: I want it to have some color

Tyler: we’ll provide options at next meeting or the one after for you to choose from

- MRC rep to LIO

It’s unwieldy to have the entire group represent, should pick one person who commits to staying for meetings, etc. Kendra is still LIO staff rep, needs to stay. The other could be Sam or Frankie

Frankie: Adam may be a good one to approach since he’s from the Port

Matt: I want to upsell the LIO, at our liaison meeting we discussed work we want to do into the future. There’s value

Tyler: there were a lot of dedicated bright minds in that meeting, so participation in LIO is a chance to be part of that

- MRC retreat schedule

Consensus is first week of December. Can we investigate booking Brickworks for December 1<sup>st</sup>?

Karin: I’m willing to help with topics      Laura Jo: willing to help with food

Frankie: I’ll check with Sasha, in the past there has been budget for sandwiches

11:13 AM    **Adjourn MRC Meeting, Convene CAG Meeting**

11:14 AM    **SRFB Grant Round Final Updates**

*Sam Whitridge*

We’ve submitted the list as presented. It’s looking like alternate list of projects could also get some funding.

Sorenson and Neck Point are also likely to get ESRP funding in which case they wouldn’t need all the SRFB funding.

We’re excited we were able to use all our funds because we had such a strong project list this year.

11:15 AM    **Committee Member News and other Business**

Karin reminds everyone about GICU on Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>, encourages participation - want to see a strong MRC presence.

We want weight but especially pictures we can share on our website and Facebook page. Focus on how we can reuse/repurpose items instead of taking everything to the dump

11:18 AM    **Adjourn CAG, Convene LIO Meeting.**





San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



SAN JUAN LOCAL INTEGRATING ORGANIZATION

## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG-LIO Meeting Agenda

**Thursday, October 6, 2022**  
**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

### Microsoft Teams meeting

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 255 759 546 331

Passcode: Hoivgx

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 360-726-3293](tel:+13607263293), [43622274#](tel:+143622274) United States, Seattle

Phone Conference ID: 436 222 74#

*While this is a virtual meeting, a public meeting place is available at the County Legislative Building, Legislative Hearing Room, at 55 2nd St. in Friday Harbor for those without mobile phone or internet access.*

9:00 AM	<p><b>Convene MRC Meeting – Karin Roemers-Kleven</b></p> <p><b>Coast Salish Acknowledgement</b></p> <p><i>Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that has been passed down from generation to generation.</i></p>
9:05 AM	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>
9:10 AM	<p><b>Approve meeting agenda – All</b></p> <p><b>Approve September MRC meeting minutes – MRC Members</b></p>
9:15 AM	<p><b>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Karin Roemers-Kleven</b></p>
9:20 AM	<p><b>Intertidal Monitoring Project on Yellow Island– Chris Mantegna, UW</b></p>
9:45 AM	<p><b>MRC Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aleutian Isle next steps- <i>Sam Whitridge</i></li> <li>• Debrief of NWSC Collaborative Conservation Workshop- <i>Tyler, Lovel and Phil</i></li> <li>• Derelict Vessel List and proposed vessel turn-in event- <i>Sam Whitridge</i></li> <li>• Creosote Assessment Grant- <i>Frances Robertson</i></li> <li>• MSA Update Next Steps- <i>Frances Robertson</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final SRKW Westside Report- <i>Frances Robertson</i></li> <li>• MRC Logo Update- <i>Tyler Davis</i></li> <li>• Great Islands Cleanup Update- <i>Tyler Davis</i></li> <li>• MRC Retreat Planning- <i>Sam Whitridge</i></li> <li>• Pigeon Guillemot surveys- <i>Tyler Davis</i></li> <li>• Follow-up on LIO Rep-<i>Sam Whitridge</i></li> </ul>
10:45 AM	<b>Committee member updates and any other business</b>
10:50 AM	<b>Adjourn MRC Meeting</b> <b>Convene CAG Meeting</b>
10:50 AM	<b>CAG Updates-</b> <i>Sam Whitridge</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SRFB Funding Meeting Update</li> <li>• MacKaye Harbor Project Completion</li> <li>• Upcoming WSC Meeting</li> </ul>
11:15 AM	<b>Adjourn CAG Meeting</b> <b>Convene LIO Meeting</b>
11:15 AM	<b>Approve LIO September Meeting Summary</b>
11:20 AM	<b>LIO Updates-</b> <i>Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BIL Funding</li> <li>• Update on new LIO grant</li> <li>• LIO Collective Project</li> <li>• NTA Reporting</li> <li>• Revisit LIO Strategic Plan</li> <li>• Fish Tales- <i>Frances Robertson</i></li> </ul>
12:00 PM	<b>Adjourn LIO Meeting</b>



San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG Meeting Minutes October 6, 2022

**MRC, CAG and LIO Committee Members in Attendance:** Paul Andersson, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genter, Adam Parrott, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Beth Tate

**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Matthew Colston, Tyler Davis, Marta Green, Erin Licata, Chris Mantegna, Frances Robertson, Kendra Smith, Kim Sundberg, Sam Whitridge

9:03 AM **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement**

*Sam Whitridge*

Welcome to the MRC/CAG/LIO meeting. No quorum so we'll hold off on action items: *Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.*

9:04 AM **Public Comment**

*none*

9:05 AM **Approve Meeting Agenda, Approve September MRC meeting minutes**

*MRC members*

No quorum so we'll skip this for the time being, save until next meeting

9:06 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC**

*Karin Roemers-Kleven*

Good meeting last Friday. Cancelling March 31<sup>st</sup> meeting, replacing with an in-person retreat, details to follow.

Details on the European green crab situation. Karin provides numbers of green crabs captured in late summer in certain bays. They are more tolerant of fresh water than other species. Cecilia Gobin discussed Tribes' concerns Frankie: all the green crab monitoring locations in the County have active monitoring teams.

Kailey: We have a green crab team here; I think at two or three sites. We have found a couple in Wescott bay

Jeff: two sites on Lopez, I'm monitoring the south one, they haven't shown up on Lopez although present in Samish Bay

A good presentation from WDFW researcher who has developed monitoring of sea birds and mammals in collaboration with Tribes and other agencies, looking for species of concerns, assessing declines. Certain birds declining, need to protect forage fish for many of these birds of concern. No sighting of Dall's porpoises, which mostly eat eel pout.

Frankie: There has been good research conducted on harbor and Dall's porpoise in the Salish Sea over the past decade

9:13 AM **-Intertidal Monitoring Project on Yellow Island**

*Chris Mantegna*

UW grad student in the Roberts lab. Partnership with the Nature Conservancy and Matt Axling, current steward. Funding from Black in Marine Science (BIMS). Undergrad opportunity –three scholars came to study at Yellow Island. 2004 inventory of species in reports in FHL library. Basic question: what has changed since 1980 and 2004? use these data to teach students about ecology. Focus on macro-invertebrates. Students learned boat-operation, transect and quadrat data-gathering methods. Chris shares data for species presence resulting from 7 weeks of data collection. Pilot Program was successful. Yellow Island was a safe place for students to learn skills. Equipment was simple. Some challenges included timing of tides, species ID, etc. Showcases scholars' projects. Next: engage with local community, e.g., kayak guides, make this a long-term monitoring project. Thanks to all supporters and partners, including FHL

#### 9:32 AM **Questions?**

Frankie and Sam: thanks for a great effort out at Yellow Island, very inspiring work, thanks for your presentation

Megan: I want to make sure your report is in the FHL library?

Chris: not yet, but soon

Frankie: I work with a group of women in marine mammal science, interest in collaborating?

[www.wimms.weebly.com](http://www.wimms.weebly.com)

Chris: Yes! I'll reach out!

Jeff: I notice there's only one mooring buoy at Yellow, could TNC put out more to invite boaters and without anchoring?

Chris: there are two, one on each side. I'll discuss with Matt. Not encourage long-term stays, need to strike a balance

#### 9:37 AM **MRC Updates**

*Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis*

- Aleutian Isle next steps

*Sam Whitridge*

Discussion about what MRC can do. The response group will debrief with County Council, we thought appropriate role for us to submit letter to County Council and other agencies involved about our concerns and help guide discussion. If that's something we want to do, key concerns: lack of air monitoring in the immediate aftermath. Reports of strong diesel odors on the west side, volunteer engagement when an event like this happens, and the current state of IOSA.

Next step is for MRC or subgroup to take lead on drafting such a letter so we're ready for council debrief.

There's an October 13 meeting 10am-noon meeting hosted by Ecology presentation on the Aleutian Isle incident,

Register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwocu2gqDwjGtcHb3buwccxm78XBfWJkY6z>

Lovel: Friends post on lessons learned from the ALEUTIAN ISLE response:

<https://sanjuans.org/2022/09/21/important-lessons-learned-from-an-oil-spill/>

I'm following up on when there's a spill in SRKW critical habitat, ensuring that there's a pre-approved plan for deploying and compensating whale deterrence wildlife response resources. This request has been submitted to the annual NW Area Committee Summit December 7<sup>th</sup>

Frankie: there's also a meeting coming up hosted by WDFW to discuss SRKW response, hazing and other issues

Sam: both Karin and Christina have expressed interest in helping

Frankie: let's check in with them, this letter needs to be completed promptly. Full debrief is happening at the end of this month, October 28<sup>th</sup>. Aleutian Isle response letter needs to be submitted by October 26<sup>th</sup>.

ACTION ITEM: Sam lead on facilitating, format on MRC letterhead, follow up with Christina, Karin, Lovel, and Jeff

#### 9:50 AM • Debrief on NWSC Collaborative Conservation Workshop

*Tyler/Lovel*

Tyler: Great to get together, meet other MRC's. Purpose was to share, opportunities to 'cross borders', programs that can be adopted. We highlighted PFSS, adopt-a-beach, etc. Each MRC had a table, I presented for SJC.

Lovel: one strength of PFSS is that it's a collaboration of different groups. NW Straits project app highlighting conservation sites and connect with businesses, 'points' for visiting. Sites include Orcas ferry and FH port aquarium.

Frankie: would be great if members can provide sites to add for the county; a good project for MRC members lead on. <https://nwstraitsfoundation.org/activities/passport-to-marine-adventure/>

9:57 AM • Derelict Vessel List and Proposed vessel turn-in event

*Sam*

*Whitridge*

We discussed request to MRC's for derelict vessels to address with NW Straits funding in the next year. That list was submitted last week; Sam and Tyler went out in Sherriff's boat, tagged boats mostly in Blind Bay. Submitted list to NW Straits with 3 prioritized vessels, 2 in Blind Bay and the *Metaphor* by Orcas ferry Landing.

And, Adam and myself attended a prelim scoping call with NW Straits organized by Lucas Hart about a vessel turn-in event. They wanted to talk to port reps, discuss costs. There was interest. Is this something MRC wants to pursue?

Adam: Port doesn't have a yard classed for crunching of vessels at Jensens. For Turn in week we'd set up a time and location so that they'd all be crushed up and recycled at the same time. I want to look into it more, see what we can do

Level: I connected Marta with staff at NOAA about securing additional funding if we have more need, is that in works?

ACTION ITEM: Sam will follow up with Marta

Tyler: NW Straits funding is one opportunity for a few big boats, but we'll still continue through regular channels

Level: there's more federal funding available that could help catch up on backlog, want to make use of it

Frankie: The idea of this program is to get ahead of boats before they're emergencies, derelict vessel *prevention*.

Marta: most turn-in programs require the vessel is already out of the water, towing and haul-out costs are a deterrent

-more discussion of this idea, potential specific sites, site criteria, and potential barriers to execution

10:13 AM • Creosote Assessment Grant

*Frances Robertson*

Jackson pilings project due to start January 1. May need marine mammal monitors during piling removal. We have signed contract by WDFW for county wide assessment of creosote structures (also private as resources allow)

10:15 AM • MSA Update Next steps

*Frances Robertson*

Finalizing draft. Subcommittee, stay tuned to review final chapters and strategic actions. Goal to finish plan by end of year. November/December meetings will focus on getting this plan over the finish line. Once subcommittee signs off, Frankie will send to whole MRC.

Jeff: I'd like to be sent it with the subcommittee. I also have climate sustainability report to put in by end of month

10:16 AM • Final SRKW Westside Report

*Frances Robertson*

Available and completed on the county website. Thanks to everyone who assisted with that effort!

Jeff: the plan was impressive & well done, including graphics. Good to plant seeds of how to approach monitoring etc.

Question about adaptive management – will that be updated? How do we move forward as new solutions arise?

Frankie: I'm keen to discuss this with agencies, reasons put forward why monitoring wouldn't work are no longer true- technology exists and examples of working warden program, e.g., Robson Bight – community implemented.

Level: thanks Frankie for all your work on that report, I hope it will be recognized and incorporated

10:26 AM • MRC Logo Update

*Tyler Davis*

Moving forward with Jason LaClare, did artwork at American Camp. Shows recent sketches. Two orcas represent tale of protectors of the Salish Sea, that during the great floods the people and creatures were rescued by Orcas. The parallel is the MRC as protector of the Salish Sea. Kailey and Jason working on that, hope to reveal next meeting.

Kailey: Any comments or feedback on the Logo MRC?

Adam: love it

10:28 AM • Great Islands Cleanup Update

*Tyler Davis*

Didn't go as well as April. But good turnout, over 1,700lb. trash between SJ and Lopez (still waiting on Orcas numbers), and participation on Shaw (a boat went to pick up their load). Welcome suggestions on how to engage and connect with outer islands. Stuart had good response; Decatur interested in the Spring event, scheduled for April 22<sup>nd</sup> in 2023

10:30 Am • MRC Retreat Planning

*Sam Whitridge*

We think Grange will be best venue for kitchen space and cost. December 1<sup>st</sup>, 9am-until a little after lunch (last year it was until that 2pm interisland ferry). Frankie/Tyler/Sam can come back next month with some ideas for topics

Megan: there's a need to finalize the MSA plan

Kendra: that would be awesome, and Terrestrial managers are meeting in March for session at Moran. I suggest a combo of terrestrial/marine and then a day of marine managers' work. An opportunity to cross-pollinate with all that staff and to share out to other managers what's going on in marine environment i.e., buoy work, derelict vessel, and issues from freshwater affecting marine environment. We usually stay at facilities there.

Sam: So, you're suggesting an additional retreat piggy backing on terrestrial managers' workshop in March?

Frankie, Kailey, Megan, Erin, Adam, Lovel: in support

So, we'll just meet in December to wrap up MSA, then collaborate with terrestrial managers on Orcas in March

10:39am • Follow-up on LIO Rep

*Sam Whitridge*

We still need a rep. Adam has expressed interest in serving in role, we don't have a quorum so vote at next meeting.

10:40 Am • Pigeon Guillemot surveys

*Tyler Davis*

Who wants to get involved in pigeon guillemot network? happening in other counties. good indicator species, widespread/opportunistic, data from small sites are valuable. Assume Phil is interested, also Jeff, Kendra and Frankie.

<https://www.clallamcountymrc.org/projects/pigeon-guillemot-survey/>, [Home \(pigeonguillemot.org\)](http://Home(pigeonguillemot.org))

Frankie: there may also be some historic data from Kari Koski – she may be interested in doing them again -Surveys happen between May and September, minimum 10 weeks between June-August with prelim survey in May. Must cover breeding season. Minimum 1 day/week during peak season, minimum 1 hour survey finishes before 9am

10:44 AM **Committee member updates and any other business**

• Tyler: Cattle Point interpretative center deserves improvement. There is LTAC funding. That site has potential, MRC could take lead in how it's presented – layout, design, copy on interpretative boards etc., then “supported by SJ MRC”.

Megan: years ago, I worked with folks from several different agencies to put up interpretative signs, did that ever get used? That was a huge effort. it included Parks, DNR, BLM, me. Text was written for the bunker about the glaciers etc.

Tyler: Thanks, sounds like there are resources available, maybe this is just a funding issue to get this over the finish line

Kendra: I wonder if that's the stuff Paul McFarland mentioned, we know him through terrestrial managers. I'd love for MRC to have an anchor to communicate to public that we're here and there's a group people can go to to get involved

-Did we get a head nod for Tyler to go ahead and pursue LTAC funding? (at least \$50K)

Jeff: full support and a site on Lopez as well. Informative but also a gratitude portion, expressing gratitude to this place

Kendra: we could consider that for Orcas too, we can add to the bulletin board



Kailey: I support the redo too and am willing to be creative and help

Beth Tate: I'd be happy to participate in further conversations about improvements to the bunker on Cattle Point.

- Frankie: Another update - an adult female minke was found off Lopez ferry terminal yesterday, necropsy scheduled

Level and Erin are interested in updates on that

- Tyler: PFSS update - need community support for the idea of eco-bricks, potential for MRC members to mentor other projects for next school semester in FHHS, program set up by Sam Garson

- Jeff: about the eelgrass vessel survey monitoring project, was there any report? Could you summarize?

ACTION ITEM: yes, Tyler will do that

Frankie: we're summarizing those for quarterly final reports. We have summaries for False Bay visitor data and ulva

- And, Frankie has a mooring buoy assessment project that needs to be done by end of year. Needs rudimentary GIS experience, maybe a student could be available? probably average 10-15 hours a week, some basic density analysis

Megan: there's a research class here doing drone and GIS work, I wonder if the class wants the project

ACTION ITEM: Frankie can write up a little blurb about this and send to Megan

11:01 AM **Adjourn MRC Meeting, Convene CAG Meeting**

11:02 AM **CAG Updates**

*Sam Whitridge*

- SRFB Funding Meeting Update

Finalize 2022 grant round. SRFB just met for annual funding meeting. Sam shows view of final list: 6 projects were approved last week, 2 not funded, 2 were added to our list as alternates. We learned the Coastal Wetland Mapping project found other funding, so the amount Friends requested for that goes to eelgrass recovery phase 2 project. That was \$2.2, almost 2.5 million dollars of work funded in SJ county. The North Shore project is on list for PSAR large capital

11:05Am • MacKaye Harbor Project Completion

This is a salmon recovery project completed, funded by PSAR in 2020 grant round, we awarded \$75K and now armor removal is complete, road and dock are open, kayak-friendly public access north of boat launch, restored sitting area. Next steps: interpretative signage and planting planned for February next year. Kudos to everyone, Byron and Krista

11:07 AM • Upcoming WSC Meeting

Sam will attend virtually, annual coalition of salmon entities, updates from that meeting to deliver in November

11:08 AM **Adjourn CAG**



San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



SAN JUAN LOCAL INTEGRATING ORGANIZATION

## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG-LIO Meeting Agenda

Thursday, November 3, 2022  
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

### Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 227 259 667 557

Passcode: mPcbSy

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 360-726-3293](tel:+13607263293), [461615118#](tel:+1461615118) United States, Seattle

Phone Conference ID: 461 615 118#

*While this is a virtual meeting, a public meeting place is available at the County Legislative Building, Legislative Hearing Room, at 55 2nd St. in Friday Harbor for those without mobile phone or internet access.*

9:00 AM	<p><b>Convene MRC Meeting – Christina Koons</b>  <b>Coast Salish Acknowledgement</b>  <i>Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that has been passed down from generation to generation.</i></p>
9:05 AM	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>
9:10 AM	<p><b>Approve meeting agenda – All</b>  <b>Approve September/October MRC meeting minutes – MRC Members</b></p>
9:15 AM	<p><b>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons</b></p>
9:20 AM	<p><b>MSA Plan Update and Review/Approval of Chapters– Frances Robertson</b></p>
9:50 AM	<p><b>MRC Updates/Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10/28 Aleutian Isle debrief report- <i>Frances Robertson</i></li> <li>• Letter from Oil Spill prevention subcommittee- <i>Sam Whitridge/Christina Koons</i></li> <li>• Derelict Vessel patrol update- <i>Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dec 1<sup>st</sup> MRC Retreat Planning- <i>Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis</i></li> <li>• Upcoming MRC Membership Changes- <i>Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis</i></li> <li>• Approve MRC Rep to LIO-<i>Sam Whitridge</i></li> <li>• Habitat SIL Buoy Grant- <i>Sam/Frankie/Tyler</i></li> <li>• LTAC Grant Update- <i>Tyler Davis</i></li> <li>• NWSC Letter of Support Request for MRC Funding Proviso- <i>Sam Whitridge</i></li> <li>• Proposed MRC Outreach project- <i>Tyler Davis</i></li> </ul>
10:50 AM	<b>Committee member updates and any other business</b>
10:50 AM	<b>Adjourn MRC Meeting Convene CAG Meeting</b>
10:50 AM	<b>CAG Updates- <i>Sam Whitridge</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2023 SRFB Grant Round Planning</li> <li>• PSAR 10-year plan</li> <li>• Report on Recent PSAR Cost Analysis</li> </ul>
11:15 AM	<b>Adjourn CAG Meeting Convene LIO Meeting</b>
11:15 AM	<b>Approve LIO September/October Meeting Summary</b>
11:20 AM	<b>LIO Updates- <i>Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis/Matt Colston</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Funding Team Next Steps</li> <li>• PSP Staffing Changes</li> <li>• LIO Coordinator Action Agenda Prioritization</li> <li>• HSIL Proposal Update</li> <li>• PSEMP Marine Birds Work Group update</li> </ul>
12:00 PM	<b>Adjourn LIO Meeting</b>



San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



## Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG-LIO Meeting Minutes November 3, 2022

**MRC, CAG and LIO Committee Members in Attendance:** Matt Arata, Carl Davis, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genter, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Adam Parrott, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Beth Tate  
**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Matthew Colston, Tyler Davis, Marta Green, Sasha Horst, Erin Licata, Dana Oster, Frances Robertson, Kendra Smith, Kim Sundberg, Sam Whitridge

9:02 AM **Convene MRC Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement** Christina Koons

*Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that have been passed down from generation to generation.*

9:03 AM **Public Comment** none

9:04 AM **Approve Meeting Agenda, Approve September/October MRC meeting minutes** MRC members  
MOTION: Megan moves to approve the minutes, Adam seconds. Lovel made some edits on September minutes and a few small errors were corrected by Tyler, those are incorporated. All in favor, none opposed, minutes are approved.

9:05 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC** Christina Koons

Debra Lekanoff spoke. Discussed issues coming up in next legislative session. 'Net ecological gain' – part of house bill 1117 which Lekanoff sponsored, she uses the term 'Nature forward'. Jan Newton from UW Applied Physics Lab visited, spoke about "backyard buoys" (more about Jan's research here <http://www.nanoos.org/>)  
Dana: This site has all the links from Jan's talk, scroll to the bottom: [Speed Dating with Scientists \(nwstraits.org\)](http://www.nanoos.org/)  
Christina: and, NW Straits conference being planned for next year, Nov. 3-4, 2023 at PT Maritime Center.

9:09 AM **MSA Plan Update and Review/Approval of Chapters** Frances Robertson

Final chapters were sent to members for review, we'll run through those now. Frankie shares screen  
Reminder – this plan updated 2007 strategies plus information gained from the 2020 Marine Managers' workshop.

- Chapter 2: assessment of MSA plan, review of 2007 strategic actions

Kendra: There was extensive effort at that time but very little got implemented in the field. I think it's important to highlight that and that our efforts here are to develop a plan which will be implemented and tracked

Frankie: would that fall into introduction? (Answer: yes.) This chapter shows what's been done in terms of progress

- Chapter 3: Conservation Biodiversity targets

In 2007, these were brief paragraphs. We've included updates on protection status, knowledge gaps, threats, etc. We brought in experts, tried to provide context for why species assemblages are important

Megan: awesome job!

- Chapter 4: Critical habitat and protected areas. We'll work with GIS dept in the new year to provide a map in which users can identify key areas for permitting, projects, etc.

Kendra: embedded web links won't last, need to go to different organizations' map service to ensure they're accurate

Level: we discussed council's approval, will there need to be an understanding that approved maps will be updated?

Frankie: majority of the maps are coming from external agencies

Kendra: we need to assure council that we have the latest iteration of those maps from those agencies. We have terminology in the code about best available science – we'll need to make sure that's applied

Level: helpful to start thinking about language

Kendra: we'll do that after the comprehensive plan is finished

Kailey: are we including properties that land bank holds? Or are these only state and county protected areas

Frankie: it includes all protected lands

Kendra: it includes SJPT and Land Bank, reminder – Land Bank land is county land. We have the map layers for all those properties. That can become part of messaging to boaters about what places need to be protected

Christina: do we have separate maps from Tribes?

Frankie: no but refers user to DAHP (Department of Archeological and Historic Preservation), those Tribal sites are culturally sensitive areas not available for public knowledge

Kendra: would still be good to talk with Tribes and classify some areas as 'privately held' sensitive areas

Frankie: Tulalip has expressed some concern in that regard, with recreational access to sensitive cultural areas

- Chapter 7: Relevant Management Efforts and Plans, it's a 'resources' chapter – lays out climate action plan, oil preparedness plan, mapping efforts largely by Friends of San Juans, etc.

Jeff: will embedded links get updated annually? I didn't check them all but found two links that didn't work

Frankie: could create a resources page on MRC website to refer to or provide full citation. It's a struggle to make a hub for these documents. (one problem is that docs were originally on LIO site which is now being updated for the County)

Still to complete: Chapter 5 – Threats and Stressors and also Chapter 6 – Management Recommendations. Need to maintain the Excel table we've been using to identify actions and track progress but put information into the plan.

Megan: that tracking is what shows this is not like the last plan that just sat on the shelf, it's a good validating exercise

*Threat themes:* Shipping and boating impacts, climate change, human recreation and resource extraction, development of islands and shorelines, invasive species and altered food webs (not just food web dynamics)

Kendra: is shipping/boating for larger vessels and recreation/resource extraction refers to smaller vessels?

Frankie: they're very connected like all these threats, can't entirely divide them

Level: Did we address aquaculture in the MSA plan, e.g., salmon farms. This topic has come up for SJ county

Frankie: it seems already impossible for net pens to be in the County

Level: disagree, the code isn't that clear. There's a proposal now in Bainbridge that could affect killer whales.

Megan: My recollection is that we looked at current regulations and thought they were sufficiently strong

Level: the current Cherry Point proposal is land-based but involves a lot of seawater intake and potential pathogen release. There are more of these proposals coming up in the region

Frankie: there has been interest in kelp farming, one idea for Jackson Beach would have been in eelgrass area

Megan: but in that case the fact that there's eelgrass would prevent the kelp farm from being built

Level: ...only if we have an approved map documenting that the eelgrass is there

Jeff: back to shipping and boating– for shipping we're talking about transboundary commerce, its own entity.

Recreational boating is more local, shoreline-based. Oil spill prevention relates to both

Kendra: as developing specific actions, relate them to goals or to threat themes and add some categories

Level: Jeff is right, but don't want to lose sight of the concern about increased boating in recent years

Frankie: I'll get this chapter draft to all of you so you can see how the threats are laid out.

Everyone approves of the completed chapters. Thanks Frankie for all the hard work!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1hCt2RUjgiPrA0Pdv7HKvpQki5T0o0zql/edit?usp=sharing&oid=109287952495427423776&rtpof=true&sd=true>

9:50 AM **MRC Updates/Business**

*Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis*

9:51 AM • Letter from Oil Spill prevention subcommittee

*Sam Whitridge/Christina Koons*

The subcommittee all weighed in, Level and Christina took the lead. Letter has been sent. There were four key issues the subcommittee found for council to consider: Increasing oil spill response resources, increasing whale response deterrents, the importance of securing air quality monitoring equipment, and communication with local citizens.

Christina: thanks to the subcommittee for their work. It was important to thank all the county/state/fed agencies for their work in raising the boat. We need to be prepared for these events to happen. Coast Guard observed many small spills while here. We mentioned that and hope County will consider an education campaign. Thanks, Jeff, for his edits

Kendra: we may want to include Jane Fuller on the list of recipients. If there was no specific action requested in the letter, we should have a follow-up discussion. That can be arranged after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year

Level: there was an ask in terms of legislative ways to address the situation. This would be the time to address that

10:00 AM • 10/28 Aleutian Isle debrief report

*Frances Robertson*

One interesting takeaway was that Coast Guard classified this as a type II event, type I would have been the most serious. Many agencies struggled to address the long-term nature of this response. Issues with resources and the remoteness of the SJI's. In the debrief group for wildlife response, their focus was on SRKW but birds are important too, some endangered species. Another takeaway was the use of technology/drones, a huge help in tracking sheen.

Marta: I attended the Pacific States Oil Spill Task Force meeting yesterday. Several participants referred to the Aleutian Isle incident. I asked about the air monitoring issue, and it wasn't directly answered.

Frankie: It would be great to host a workshop in FH with all groups involved in hazing activities, the agencies and IOSA etc. We discussed this with WDFW, they should lead but MRC can help facilitate by arranging meeting space in FH.

When they gave summary of actions, there was no timeline provided, wasn't 100% clear what was happening when.

Marta: we should request those daily reports from the Coast Guard and from Ecology, Brendan should have those.

**ACTION ITEM:** Marta will request daily reports (especially first few days) from Brendan

Level: I was glad to hear Brendan speak about the need for better air quality monitoring. I've been told there'll be a debrief meeting in April which sounds far away. Also, no discussion of total cost.

And regarding yesterday's Task Force meeting, there was a lot of reference to the whale deterrents operations being done by volunteers. I'm concerned there's an expectation that we'll have volunteers for that. Contracted assets with training would be best. In our letter to Council, we talked about the need to be better prepared to perform whale deterrent operations. Giles is interested in helping but it requires funding.

Frankie: There is a question of how effective these deterrent operations are. SRKW behavior has changed a lot in last 15 years, groups are smaller and more fragmented. This happened under best possible conditions and still challenging.

Christina: can we reach out and request moving timeline up, maybe meeting in January? And circling back to the idea of a community meeting. Any objections to that idea? (*No one has any objections*)

Karin: Meeting in January would be more relevant, memory can be lost by April. I'd like it to be a community meeting

ACTION ITEM: Christina will contact Coast Guard, she'll provide our letter. Frankie suggests working with Brendan

- Sam will help, Lovel will provide Coast Guard contact

Sam: Brendan was specifically hesitant about an open-ended meeting, this would be suggested by Coast Guard

Kendra: maybe in January there could be a conversation about your letter and what we should do locally to help solve for those issues. Make it not only about the Aleutian Isle but also about the small/mid-size spills.

Lovel: If we're serious about expanding spill response in the Islands and more robust deterrent program, requires legislation. Historically the legislation that increases spill response happens after a spill, so this is our window of opportunity – this legislative session. If we want to engage Council in this session January is too late.

Kendra: what if committee starts drafting what the legislation should be and we get an early meeting in January to ask them to put that forward. May be able to get the document in front of them sooner but council session ends Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. The letter sent doesn't specifically point out the ask, e.g., existing regulation language change.

Christina: Can Lovel take this and run with it? Can MRC encourage this action to move ahead? Or should we demand time with council sooner? And can we reach out to Tribes, NW straits? (they have a legislative relations committee)

Lovel: at the very least there's always public access at the start of every council meeting, we can go and remind about the letter we've submitted and add detail about the opportunity to affect change now. Subcommittee should discuss

ACTION ITEM: Christina and Lovel will talk offline to schedule a subcommittee meeting for next week

10:36 AM • Derelict Vessel patrol update

*Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis*

Three vessels on our priority list to NW Straits commission. Tyler shares screen: the "Dudeck" barge in Blind Bay, the Morningstar in Blind Bay, and the Metaphor at Orcas landing.

Christina: did we reach out to marina owners to see if they have vessels that need to be listed?

Marta: this state funding only applies to public marinas. Adam and I went out recently in Shipyard cove, met with two of the liveaboards. How do we address people who have no other living option? Some boats with expired registration, appear to be not moving or operational, but still within compliance

Adam: for the port it's a long process to have vessel moved out of the marina, they get 30/60/90 day notice.

There's a 90-day waiting period in which vessel can come into compliance prior to impound. Whole process can take 6 months.

Kendra: is this like unlivable conditions in a home, typically the Health Dept. makes those calls? for liveaboards

Christina: There are boats in West sound marina they'd love to get rid of. Can subcommittee proceed with this?

Marta: is Tyler leading that subcommittee?

Tyler: yes, who's on it? – Adam, Marta, Phil

Marta: and Jeff or Phil if you're available to come out with us next week? Next focus area includes Westcott Bay

Karin: is boat insurance an enforced requirement? Maybe derelict vessels without insurance can be cited earlier?

Adam: Yes, insurance is part of the contract agreement, and we have a staff that contacts anyone not in compliance.

Sam: the process is going forward; meeting will happen sometime in November. Finalize list in January

10:49 AM • Habitat SIL Buoy Grant

*Sam/Frankie/Tyler*

Funds granted from National estuary program. We are putting together a proposal to assess comprehensive boating in the County. This came out of the EPIC meetings, to address issues with lack of mooring in the County. And then hopefully find some solutions for reducing vessel impacts. This will be a 4-year project, taking it to Council next week. Application would be due first week of December if Council approves

10:51 AM • Dec 1st MRC Retreat Planning

*Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis*

We'll finalize MSA plan, also some MRC work-planning and team-building. Spend some time projecting forward. Planning to do it at FHL. A good chunk of the day in person. Karin and Beth may not be available to meet in person. Frankie: We have catered meetings in the past. Just need Sasha to approve and the grant can reimburse, at current per diem per person. We can work with Rene Beachem like last time. Then we just provide tea & coffee.

10:55 AM • Upcoming MRC Membership Changes

*Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis*

We'll need to fill Ivan's position, let's start thinking about potential new members. It would be good to have more Lopez/Orcas residents, another whale-watching representative

Megan: are these positions that are open allocated to anyone in particular or to members at large?

Sam: next June Megan's position expires, would be great to have someone at the labs. Technically not allocated. Phil's position will expire as well.

Phil: in the past we've tried to get representation from outer islands but it's not an allocated position. And there was never an allocated position for whale watch industry.

Frankie: but we should get that fixed to ensure that an FHL position is an allocated position.

Tyler: I do think having representation from the tourism industry is key

Beth: In my new position at WDFW I will be staying on the MRC. Jen-Jay would like to add another MRC member to continue to represent the contracting/development side of our marine resources needs, likely be an Orcas person.

**ACTION ITEM:** Beth can reach out to that person to complete an application

10:58 AM • Approve MRC Rep to LIO

*Sam*

*Whitridge*

**MOTION:** Megan moves to approve Adam as representative to the LIO, Christina seconds. All in favor, Adam is the rep.

10:59 AM • LTAC Grant Update- Tyler Davis

Seeking LTAC funds to improve Cattle Point 'bunker' and outdoor signage. Planning for the next calendar year. Seeking input on ideas, this will be an MRC commitment. A graphic designer will create signage, we're responsible for verbiage

Megan: is DNR throwing out previous work?

Tyler: they have three signs already, nothing intertidal. I'll push them to provide other signs. They don't want to throw anything out. They were happy with work that had been previously done.

Frankie: we had a beautiful intertidal sign designed for Orcas landing; can we reuse that here? (answer: yes)

Tyler: we also have a letter of support from DNR that they support this on their land. Then can we also have a letter of support from the MRC signed by Christina to show MRC is on board with this effort?

**ACTION ITEM:** Tyler will write the letter and send it to Christina to sign. All in support of this idea, no one opposed

11:06 AM • NWSC Letter of Support Request for MRC Funding Proviso

*Sam*

*Whitridge*

NWSC wants to edit proviso funding MRC's, there are some unintended challenges in wording that make extra administrative burden/routing steps in contracting for projects. NWS is seeking to change this language, requesting letters of support from MRC's – need approval from the MRC to move forward on that. All approve, none opposed.

11:07 AM • Proposed MRC Outreach project- Tyler Davis

Need to do more storytelling to the community, largely share on social media. Write up involvement into short story or media post – one person a month. Unlike bio videos we did in the past, this would be short 500 words story. All in favor, Tyler will reach out to get it started.

11:10 AM **Committee member updates and any other business**



Tyler: Another presentation from yesterday's Oil Spill Task Force annual meeting that has relevance to our discussion on marine spill prevention and response came from the Georgia Strait Alliance and their Clean Marine BC program ([Clean Marine BC • Georgia Strait Alliance](#)[Georgia Strait Alliance](#)). When we decide to tackle this issue, we can look to programs like this (and in California) to craft our approach, rather than reinventing the wheel.

11:11 AM **Adjourn MRC Meeting, Convene CAG Meeting**

11:02 AM **CAG Updates**

*Sam Whitridge*

- 2023 SRFB Grant Round Planning

We are in early stages, it will be a smaller funding year, just SRFB not PSAR this year. I'm requesting first week of May for site visits. Proposals due in April, letters of interest due in February

11:12 AM • PSAR 10-year plan

The partnership is in process of developing committee for a 10-year plan on PSAR. Need to make some massive investments, etc. They're finalizing the terms of reference, building a business strategy to hopefully bring in more funding streams for salmon recovery. Then adaptive management to enhance effectiveness of PSAR. This will be finalized at Salmon recovery meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

11:14 AM • Report on Recent PSAR Cost Analysis

The partnership recently conducted a cost analysis on PSAR, there have been significant increases on costs for salmon recovery projects. It's blown the budget out of the water in terms of what Partnership can provide, affecting ability to complete some projects. Inflation creates some costs increases, but largely construction costs and materials increase over original project costs. Want to institute incentives for realistic estimates and to not underestimate costs but for proposals to present true costs. Want to get contractors more up to speed on what these projects cost, generate more interest in these types of projects. New ways to add contingencies to projects  
Kendra: can we build in the cost increases? Some stormwater projects take 5 years to complete, cost increases are higher than on mainland. Can there be a mechanism to unilaterally account for that inflationary element?  
Sam: that's something I can push for; I know that'll come up at the Watersheds Lead group

11:21 AM **Adjourn CAG**