



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

Thursday, January 7, 2021
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom,

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 862 6203 5747
Passcode: 457525

Call in number:
+1 253 215 8782 US

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Christina Koons</i> Coast Salish Acknowledgement <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>
8:35 AM	Citizen input
8:40 AM	Acceptance of December Retreat meeting minutes
8:45 AM	NW Straits Commission update – Christina Koons
9:00	Eelgrass restoration efforts in the San Juan Islands: Mike Ramsey
9:45 AM	MRC house keeping <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reporting (come prepared with your volunteer hours from October-December 2020)• MRC discussion on 2021 workplan and proposed project <i>Actions required:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Acceptance of 2021 workplan2. Confirmation on which proposed projects to move forward in 2021-2023 grant round
10:15	MRC Member news and comments
10:30 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review/Approve 2021 SRFB Grant Calendar• Update on '21-'23 Governor's Budget
11:00 AM	Adjourn MRC and CAG meeting

Attached files: December retreat meeting minutes, proposed project scopes, draft 2021 workplan, NWSI internship recruitment guide

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, Carl Davis, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genther, Patti Gobin, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, Ivan Reiff, Laura Jo Severson, Beth Tate Kendra Smith

Ex-officio, County support staff, Marta Green, Frances Robertson, Jamie Stephens, Sam Whitridge

Members of the Public: Tom Cowan, Lucas Hart, Dana Oster, Mike Ramsay, Laura Rivas, Tina Whitman, Sandy Wyllie

8:34 AM **Convene Meeting**

Frances Robertson, Chair

Begin with Coast Salish Acknowledgement: *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.*

8:35 AM **Citizen input**

none

8:36 AM **Acceptance of December Retreat minutes**

Lovel made a few minor edits, Frankie will distribute those. Anyone else with edits please send them to Frankie. Lovel moves to approve December minutes as modified. Phil seconds. Minutes approved.

8:37 AM **Eelgrass restoration efforts in the San Juan Islands**

Mike Ramsey

Aim to restore eelgrass in historic herring spawning areas, develop seeding method. Two locations: Westcott Bay and Blind Bay. Three restoration techniques: whole transplant, seeding via bag & buoy, and hand-seeding. Transplant method developed by Jeff Gaeckle, adults bundled and planted. BuDS – Buoy Deployed Seeding, methodology developed by Sandy. Deployed July 20 and 23rd, seed bags each contained 30 flowering shoots. Collected seed bags in September at which point seeds had been released. October 15 and 17th seeds hand-broadcast along transects.

Monitoring begins this spring, plan to assess density, viability, length of shoots on adult transplants. QUESTIONS

Phil: what's your definition of success for this project?

Mike: if we get around a 10% growth rate or better, and if there's more density in adult plants. We only have funding through 2021. Planning to seek additional funding to support more monitoring

Patti: Tulalip doing similar things. We have charitable funds you can apply for, need nonprofit status.

Mike: thanks, we all know how critical forage fish and eelgrass are to our ecosystem

Frances: last summer both those sites had very heavy boat usage. Is there any monitoring of boat counts? Could MRC help take that on as a variable to consider at these sites?

Sandy: we've been tracking vessel traffic in 5 bays in SJI's since late summer.

Tina: Friends of SJ's has a grant to do some anchor-out-of-eelgrass informational buoy marking. We are planning to use Bell Point at Westcott Bay as a site, hope that'll be marked by next season.

Frances: I've listed Boat counts as a potential project for next grant round. This is one area we have ability to collect data, planning for sites at Bell Point and at Odlin. Jeff and Ivan can help.

Mike: I'd be glad to talk separately with the MRC about that and funding.

Lovel: is county discussing restricting number of recreational boats' access in terms of anchorages?

Mike: need to bring State partners into conversation, like DNR. Legal avenue to restrict anchoring?

Tina: a workshop coming up, some coordination specifically on idea of permits for anchor-out buoys.

Frankie: workshop series, dovetail with Dana's transboundary eelgrass efforts with NW Straits, coordinated approach. We need to be prepared for growth in boating for the long term. Need to start figuring out how to address it in the County with infrastructure.

Patti: to be proactive is best. can't restore eelgrass in one year. Need to invite everyone to table
ACTION ITEM: Frankie to call Patti, find out how we could use what they're doing as a template.

ACTION ITEM: Patti to connect Mike with the right people and encourage staff to work with Mike.

Frances: I'll be in touch about subcommittee and taking on eelgrass or boat monitoring this year

Laura: Mike, I understand you're no longer with CD? Please get in touch with me I want to help too

ACTION ITEM: Mike will send Laura an email privately with cell phone info

Beth (in chat): I'm happy to help monitor eelgrass!

9:44 AM **MRC house keeping**

- Quarterly reports are due, please submit volunteer hours from October-December 2020

ACTION ITEM: send Frankie volunteer hours (email is fine). Time and prep for meetings, etc.

- MRC discussion on 2021 workplan and proposed projects

Frankie: I sent all of you copies of the workplan. (Frankie shares the workplan spreadsheet)

Level: ERTV effective analysis coming up, MRC help to provide outreach with results of that report?

Marta: early audience will be February/March. Final report should be done by April.

Frankie: I will be out of commission throughout summer. I will report for that quarter before I go. It will help if you all submit hours when asked. My capacity will be limited going forward, unable to do outreach at fairs and docks over weekends. If MRC wants those things, citizens need to take it on.

Filling in more blanks: Anacortes boat show not likely to go ahead, we can leave it blank or delete
Plastic Free Salish Sea just had first meeting and it was productive, Karin will update us in February.

Marine stewardship Planning – Frankie will arrange subcommittee meeting for that soon

'Catch more crab' education through NW Straits, we distribute flyers we are sent every year.

Members who continue to participate with green crab monitoring (Jeff, Kailey)

Forage Fish spawning surveys with Tina and Friends

Eelgrass and anchor-out monitoring, especially in areas where hope to put in navigational aids

Carl: you have abalone project which I've done nothing on. Put me on eelgrass instead

Also volunteer to help with eelgrass monitoring: Jeff, Christina, Kailey

Frankie: We'll set up a meeting with Mike and Tina, make a simple protocol that can give data

At retreat Ivan mentioned a more opportunistic count when boating by, that can supplement

Ivan: I'm also a pilot, I'd be happy to do some flyovers on a fixed schedule.

ACTION ITEM: Ivan and Frankie will connect about some things he can do via flyover

Carl: I can cover Blind Bay with drone

Sam: Phil and Cathleen are working with me on chapter update.

Dana: may I join the eelgrass subcommittee meeting? We want consistent methods across MRCs

Level: also, Christina, Karin and I are interested in a symposium around growler noise impacts

Phil: what happened to that derelict vessel prevention program? I want to help with that

Frankie: I listed 4 core projects to start developing for next grant round so I can submit by April. I'll add few more options at bottom of workplan, but we need to discuss derelict vessel program.

Level: could these be identified as projects that will be set in motion if staffing/funding is secured?

Frankie: funding for this year has already been set. For this year, these would be considered pilots

Kendra: the workload for our team is already swamped. Even contracting out takes a lot of time
Christina: I liked Jeff's term of eyes on the water, I'm interested in PR

10:12 AM Derelict Vessel Report

Marta (shares slides): With weather over recent weeks we've had 14 derelict vessels. 3 required DNR and cranes. Of 11 others some still outstanding, some we won't have funds to pursue this year. 4 in last 10 days of December. That compares with only 2 vessels back in 2019.

(Marta shows photos of half-dozen or so boats and describes details of circumstances for each one.)

Marta: Need to work on tracking down illegal mooring buoys and somehow flag them. Frankie and I put together a notice which we would use to tag any vessel of concern (anchored too long, looks non-operational, etc.). Lets the owner know they have (typically) 30 days to deal

We need volunteers to patrol/monitor for boats and leave notices where necessary. This is important now when people are leaving their boats for the winter. We appreciate citizens' help
QUESTIONS

Carl: marina owners have responsibility for boats that are sinking within their marina?

Marta: yes, because every boat should have its own insurance

Carl: so you're looking for boats in anchorages and on mooring balls? I can help on Orcas, Blind Bay

Frankie: Derelict Vessel Program created by MRC member Barbara Merritt in 2013

ACTION ITEM: Please email Frankie with your preferences (*top 4 priorities*) for what you'd like to see in the work plan, we can bring this up again at February meeting.

We discussed eelgrass monitoring; Frankie will pursue that further with folks who are interested

Other two projects: False Bay Monitoring, Megan is interested, can provide match through FHL. plan to continue public surveys started last summer with Friends of False Bay group, Karin taking lead
And, Coast Salish Film Festival, Frankie and Patti can discuss this more next week

10:30 AM Phil moves to approve the workplan, Lovel seconds. All approve

10:31 AM **NW Straits Commission update & member updates**

Christina Koons

Last meeting we discussed Growler jet noise. Effects as far as Clallam and Olympic national park
We'd like NW Straits commission to host a symposium, panel discussion of stakeholders, scientists and navy. The geographic range of this noise pollution is in 4 of 7 counties in the Initiative.

I sent out links to research and media samples, Op-ed written by Whidbey Navy station commander
Do we approve of taking this to NW Straits Commission? AND, anyone want to join subcommittee?

Patti: can you include an invitation to the sovereign nations? We'd like to comment on this noise.

Jamie: with the symposium what do you hope the outcome is? Where will it lead us?

Christina: To have a regional dialogue based on vital signs for health in the marine environment

Lovel: to the extent we can engage the navy, they may be interested in mitigating the noise.

Jamie: I've been working on this with Lovel since she was on the council. All impacted counties have met with the Governor and with Derek Kilmer, Rick Larsen. Rick Larsen started live noise monitoring.
On the independent study, we've been told the navy won't accept anything but their own study

Christina: the navy did collaborate on this research. I also serve on board of National Parks system and many there object to the jets. There's a lot to talk about, opportunity to expand the dialogue.

Lucas: From commission side and symposium series, we vote on topics, this spring doing climate. We can include this on that list to vote on for next topic. I heard there's also interest in oil spill work
Dana: for Oil spill follow-up we met with Marta and Lovel, hope to convene that at least twice a year
Christina: So this idea as an option would be in next round of symposium for the following year?
Lucas: climate series to be implemented in the Spring. Oil spill happening sporadically throughout. Another polling round for next series in early summer, then fall we could implement it
Lovel: our subcommittee should reconvene. Based on recent research and concerns among citizens we want to move forward on a symposium before next year.
ACTION ITEM: if anyone wants to join subcommittee, please email Christina

10:49 AM Christina moves to convene CAG, Phil seconds. Adjourn MRC and convene CAG meeting.
Sam: We are about to embark on next SRFB grant round, need approval on 2021 grant calendar. Last year changed to joint CAG/TAG scoring meeting (pre-Covid, to get everyone in same space) Since we'll be virtual this year, TAG wants to separate scoring meetings - have a session to focus on technical review and send that to CAG for to score for socioeconomic review.
I propose normal July MRC meeting; August - time for salmon recovery CAG scoring, finalize ratings. And, Site visits: virtual visits scheduled for May 5 and 6, first Weds/Thurs of May. This is a smaller grant round, anticipate 4 proposals to review. possible we could do in one day, but hold both dates.
Lovel moves to approve proposed timeline and scope, Phil seconds. All in favor, timeline is approved

Sam: The governor's budget was released a couple weeks ago. Shortfalls not as bad as expected
Laura: it is also an increase in the amount requested from last biennium
Sam: I'll keep you posted as move to next legislative session, budget adopted in late spring
Laura: if anyone wants to follow legislative session, Jeff Parsons gives weekly updates to Partnerships. You can get on that call, email me if interested
ACTION ITEM: Laura will send that info to Sam to distribute to the group

11:00 AM **Adjourn MRC and CAG Meeting**



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

Thursday, February 4, 2021
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom,

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 899 3319 9884
Passcode: 257810

Call in number:
+1 253 215 8782 US

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Christina Koons</i> Coast Salish Acknowledgement <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>
8:35 AM	Citizen input
8:40 AM	Acceptance of January meeting minutes
8:45 AM	NW Straits Commission update – <i>Christina Koons</i> <i>Please see the attached material provided by the Northwest Straits Foundation</i>
9:00	NWSF Crabber Outreach: The Catch More Crab program – <i>Jason Morgan</i>
9:45 AM	MRC housekeeping & project updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remaining discussion on projects for 2021-2023 grant round.• PFSS: Adopt a beach update (<i>F. Robertson</i>)• SRKW: Bringing Killer Whale Tales to grade 5 students (<i>F. Robertson & K. Genter</i>)• MSA Update: Next steps.... (<i>F. Robertson</i>)• Navy Jet Noise symposium planning (<i>L. Pratt & C. Koons</i>)
10:15	MRC Member news and comments
10:30 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2021 SRFB Grant Round Planning• Salmon Recovery Chapter Progress Update• State of Salmon in Watersheds Report
11:00 AM	Adjourn MRC and CAG meeting

Attached files: January meeting minutes, NWSF Partnership material

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, Carl Davis, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genther, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, Ivan Reiff, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Kendra Smith, **Ex-officio, County support staff:** Marta Green, Frances Robertson, Jamie Stephens, Sam Whitridge **Members of the Public:** Dana Oster, Tony Parkin, Laura Rivas

8:35 AM **Convene Meeting** *Christina Koons, Chair*

Begin with Coast Salish Acknowledgement: *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.*

8:36 AM **Citizen input** *none*

Brief introduction from Tony Parkin, here from IOSA

8:38 AM **Acceptance of January meeting minutes**

Lovel’s changes were incorporated. Lovel moves to approve, Megan seconds. Minutes approved.

8:39 AM **NW Straits Commission update** *Christina Koons*

Informational session was offered for MRC heads in January. Met new gubernatorial appointee, Julia Parrish, founder of COAST (citizen science program). NW Straits 101 for new members. Frances sent brief synopsis of meeting. Opportunity to network with other MRC’s at the symposium

8:43 AM **MRC housekeeping & project updates**

• PFSS: Adopt a beach update *Frances Robertson*
This feature on website will be live by end of month. Thanks to MRC members who contributed. Adopt a road is taking longer, Great Island Clean up teams preparing for April. More short videos being prepared, Frankie owes Carl a call. Community workshops planned with Solid Waste for spring
ACTION ITEM: anyone can join SWAC meetings first Tuesday of March, contact Frankie if interested

• SRKW: Bringing Killer Whale Tales to grade 5 students *Frances Robertson & Kailey Genther*
Kailey is organizing this, it’s still being planned virtually over a series of sessions for the 5th grade.

• MSA Update: Next Steps *Frances Robertson*

Frankie still writing biodiversity updates
ACTION ITEM: subcommittee should meet in next month to get next steps together

8:47 AM **NWSF Crabber Outreach: The Catch More Crab program** *Jason Morgan*

Jason provides a summary of derelict crab pots numbers in Puget Sound. Most common reason for loss is user error, therefore focused on education, outreach, and prevention. Review common user errors. Review of solutions: removals, research, potential gear modifications or regulations
NW Straits foundation pamphlets, “catch more crab” campaign. Various ways to reach crabbers.
In 2020 a virtual workshop was available region wide, focused on Jefferson/Clallam, plan to do again. We have 4 videos, approx. 1 minute long each, nwstraitsfoundation.org

DISCUSSION:

Q: What about restricting crabbing in high-traffic areas?

Jason: Difficult due to issues of co-management in this region. 14 treaty tribes in the area

Q: will lightweight pots be banned?

Jason: Need research to determine real proper weight, looking for funding for that now.

Q: need to put name and address on the buoy, but what about ID on the pot?

Jason: DFW sweeps gear on days recreational crabbing is closed, has an online form to report loss.

Q: is there any limitation to number of pots that can be dropped in one area?

Jason: no, and don't know how they would decide for a given area or enforce

Q: how's crab population doing?

A: crabbing shut down in South Puget Sound, not doing well, but up here it's good. Sustaining itself

Dana: Snohomish MRC promotes the catch more crab program on their website, shows map of high traffic areas to avoid: <https://www.snocomrc.org/projects/recreational-crabber-education/>

Christina: could MRC do that for SJ County?

Jason: if you're interested, we could help with design/printing/distribution, other support

Karin: could we have volunteers here to ensure crab pots are being sold with proper information?

Frances: I've been doing that at Kings and Ace, they only let you put cards in their card rack

- Karin volunteers for SJI, Christina for Orcas, Jeff for Lopez. Carl is willing to help out at his marina

Jason: April/May we will reach out to all MRC's to see who wants brochures and posters

Frances: online seminars with boat show, Waggoners, Coast Guard Auxiliary - they'd be interested.

Jason: also ferry terminals, many have posters or rack cards. morgan@nwstraitsfoundation.org

ACTION ITEM: Frankie to facilitate getting materials to MRC, contact Frankie if you want rack cards

9:48 AM **More MRC housekeeping & project updates**

Karin: minor update, I was invited by NW Straits to participate in collaboration for YES magazine

ACTION ITEM: Karin will send Frankie the draft to distribute if people are interested

Note: Jeff Friedman resigned from MRC, we have an open space, think about recruitment. And a number of member seats are up in June, hope you choose to continue, but more seats up then

- Remaining discussion on projects for 2021-2023 grant round

Eelgrass monitoring, derelict vessel, potential for coast Salish film fest, False Bay monitoring

ACTION ITEM: Other feedback, comment, additional ideas? If so please email Frankie

Christina: I'm interested in permanent funding for the marine utility, lets meet as a subcommittee.

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will send out a doodle poll, those who are interested can sign up

Level: charter review commission has just been initiated, is anyone attending those meetings?

SJ county is a charter county. The charter provides framework for county to establish its own priorities and address issues. The charter review commissioners were elected and just began meeting. If decide on charter changes, they will put forward ballot measures this November

Jamie: the charter is a governance document, not an issue document. Lays out the structure and duties of how county is governed. The charter doesn't deal with the comprehensive plan, that's

under review and parts have been decided. We do land use planning through the growth management act. It's underway, we're currently working on the land use chapter.

Question: is there any chance of procuring marine funding through the comprehensive plan?

Jamie: I doubt it but we could check into that. It doesn't define funding mechanisms. Funding is a budget issue; if we want permanent funding, need to figure out where it's coming from or pass a tax

- Navy Jet Noise symposium planning

L. Pratt and Christina Koons

We had the idea of a symposium, scientists have agreed to discuss their findings. Title is Jet Noise Science symposium. Salish Sea institute will co-host. 4 dates selected in March. Navy has been invited. Lovel looking at how we can record the proceedings for use and ability to share afterwards. ACTION ITEM: help in putting together an invitation list, if interested Lovel has google doc can share
Laura Jo: what about Barbara Bentely?

Jamie: Christine Kerlin keeps data on complaints, <ckerlin2000@yahoo.com>

10:13 AM Megan moves to adjourn MRC meeting, Lovel seconds. **Convene CAG meeting**

- 2021 SRFB Grant Round Planning

SRFB grant round process is underway. This is a smaller allocation than last year. One application so far from Preservation Trust (Lopez shoreline protection project). Next year will be bigger, many are preparing for that. CAG and MRC will have lighter review process. Letters of interest due 2/12/21
Then TAG review, through spring full applications will be submitted, then CAG gets looped in

- Salmon Recovery Chapter Progress Update

Updating 2005 Salmon Recovery Strategy Chapter. Facilitator Susan O'Neill worked with us last year to get organized. We've finalized draft of freshwater targets, meet this month for nearshore goals
Once we have a draft finalized for nearshore and freshwater of goals and targets, plan to meet with CAG to update with a short presentation at April meeting

- State of Salmon in Watersheds Report

Sam sent out materials. This report every two years by RCO and governor's salmon office. Main takeaway is that challenges are outpacing the progress we've made with restoration efforts.
ACTION ITEM: please share with your contact lists, forward along report that Sam sent last week

Laura: several recent complementary reports, like NW treaty tribes State of our Watershed report. Salmon Recovery (virtual) conference scheduled for April, just \$20. Stormwater Strategic Initiative is hosting workshops, one on Feb. 26 science, address contaminants.

Legislative session is happening. Weekly calls Fridays for Jeff Parsons' updates, please contact Laura if you want to be on that email list, or Don Gourlie at don.gourlie@psp.wa.gov

Annual report on marine waters conditions, looking to host a nearshore workgroup summit in march
Send Laura an email if you're interested in any of that.

Laura Jo: can teachers get clock hours (needed to maintain teaching credential) from attending the salmon recovery conference? contact the office of Superintendent of public instruction (OSPI)

10:36 AM **Adjourn MRC and CAG Meeting**



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

Thursday, March 4, 2021
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom,

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 865 9693 6308
Passcode: 027304

Call in number:
+1 253 215 8782 US

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Christina Koons</i> Coast Salish Acknowledgement <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>
8:35 AM	Citizen input
8:40 AM	Action: Acceptance of January meeting minutes
8:45 AM	NW Straits Commission update – <i>Christina Koons</i> <i>Please see the attached material provided by the Northwest Straits Foundation</i>
9:00	Seabed Mining: “The Dawn of an Industry” and the need for a precautionary approach <i>Lee First Twin Harbors Waterkeeper and Liz Schotman, Surfrider Foundation</i>
9:45 AM	MRC housekeeping & project updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ACTION: Approve MRC Annual Report• PFSS: Adopt a beach launch & GICU (<i>F. Robertson & K. Roemers-Kleven</i>)• SRKW: Bringing Killer Whale Tales to grade 5 students (<i>K. Genter</i>)• MSA Update: update (<i>F. Robertson</i>)• Navy Jet Noise symposium update (<i>L. Pratt & C. Koons</i>)• EPIC: work sessions and boating season monitoring (<i>F. Robertson</i>)
10:15	MRC Member news and comments
10:30 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 2021 SRFB Letter of Interest Review- SRFB Grant Round Next Steps-
11:00 AM	Adjourn MRC and CAG meeting

Attached files: Presentation abstract and speaker bios, final MRC Annual Report, February minutes.

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, 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: Frances Robertson, Jamie Stephens, Sam Whitridge

Members of the Public: Tom Cowan, Lee First, Bruce Nyden, Liz Schotman

8:35 AM **Convene Meeting** *Christina Koons, Chair*

Begin with Coast Salish Acknowledgement: *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.*

8:36 AM **Citizen input** *none*

Phil Green announces upcoming Native Plant Society talk on Island biogeography, plants of SJI's

8:37 AM **NW Straits Commission update** *Christina Koons*

Frances sent presentation materials on Maritime National Heritage Area. surveying interests now. Salish Sea sciences (an education group) is involved as representatives for SJI's. some potential for small grants/funding. Frankie will share as she learns more. Are they consulting Tribes?

Patti: No. But Tribes are concerned because when a designation is given to a certain area, need to be careful the language doesn't set up for future treaty rights fights. I plan to look into this more.

ACTION ITEM Frankie will keep Patti in the loop to be involved in any future meetings

Christina: Maybe we can consolidate, have MRC symposium around area to discuss this as a group

ACTION ITEM: Christina will talk to Lucas about that, maybe Tom Cowan can help too.

And, Tom reported to commission on allotment to MRC's from Governor's budget. Snohomish County started to talk about PFSS. Tom Mumford kelp webinar recorded on YouTube, 50 attendees. Salish Sea stewards program began, 41 registered. County Cultural resources page, <https://www.sanjuanco.com/1767/Cultural-Resources> includes Coast Salish acknowledgement, information about treaties in WA state, federally recognized tribes in WA with map. Recordings from cultural training sessions in December. Patti's help was instrumental. Links are available

8:49 AM Acknowledge Kendra's work at the Orcas Ferry Landing

Kendra: it's coming along. Carl has been amazing, pulling together MRC display bulletin board.

Last issue is with the mural. I emailed for feedback on a concept. Some loved it, some questions.

Decision: to continue working with this artist and adjust for concerns, OR put out a request for proposals for other conceptual designs. County has no process for deciding about public art

Carl: like idea of a quick RFP, include current artist in it. Can MRC weigh in and vote? The building

had 'Russel Landing' in historical script, bring that back, tie maritime with native/natural history

Lovel: I support the idea of a quick RFP, like idea of reaching out to Native artists.

Whatever's there will be very prominent. mural could be on banner material so it's not permanent

Patti: I love the colors. But Orcas Island is central to coast Salish people, somewhere could there be

more coast Salish? An octopus in coast Salish style? I'm glad to help find a tribal artist

Consensus: all concur to make a Coast Salish theme part of the RFP concept

9:10 AM Seabed Mining: “the dawn of an industry” and the need for a precautionary approach,
Lee First and Liz Schotman

Liz works for Surfrider foundation, Lee is the Twin Harbors water keeper in Aberdeen

Liz: defines seabed mining types, what resources companies are targeting for extraction

Lee: discusses the effects of seabed mining, using heavy machinery causing toxic sediment plumes.
There is a bill now to ban seabed mining, just about to vote in senate.

MOTION: Lovel moves to recommend that the SJC Council take action to support SB 5145
Concerning the prevention of seabed mining, and to advocate for the WA State Association of
Counties to also take action to support SB 5145

9:44 AM Phil seconds the motion. Christina calls for a vote, all in favor. Motion passes

ACTION ITEM: Christina takes this to the Council to take action on behalf of San Juan County

ACTION ITEM: Lee and Liz send materials they have to share to Frances

For more background information on seabed mining and links to the sign-on letters:

<https://washington.surfrider.org/a-new-coastal-threat-on-the-horizon-seabed-mining/>

Patti: I'll contact our lobbyist to make sure they're on top of this and every tribe is on top of this
And, I think it would be important for Lee to raise this with Debra Lekanoff

ACTION ITEM: Lee to get in touch with Patti about plans to talk, get email address from Frankie

9:50 AM **Acceptance of February meeting minutes**

Cathleen moves to approve the minutes, Laura Jo seconds. All in favor. Minutes approved.

9:51 AM **MRC housekeeping & project updates**

• Action: Approve MRC Annual Report

Frankie incorporated everyone's changes, can send copies to Council and NW Straits commission

MOTION: Christina moves to approve report, Carl seconds. All in favor, Annual Report approved.

• PFSS: Adopt a beach launch & GICU *Frances Robertson & Karin Roemers-Kleven*

Adopt-a-beach soft launch emailed to all MRC. We'd missed few things now added to home page
It includes a map of beaches available for stewards, collaborating with National Park service

<https://plasticfreesalishsea.org/adopt-a-beach/>

GICU set for April 24th, traditional but with social distancing. Planning is underway.

• SRKW: Bringing Killer Whale Tales to grade 5 students *Kailey Genter*

non-profit run by Jeff Hogan, hands-on science/story-telling. <https://killerwhaletales.org>

Among Lopez/Orcas/FH, 67 students will participate virtually, Targeting 5th graders

• MSA Update: update *Frances Robertson*

continue writing, hope to bring the group together in next couple months for feedback. suspect
we'll need to amend grant in terms of deliverables, won't get done before Frankie's leave in June

• Navy Jet Noise symposium update *Lovell Pratt & Christina Koons*

Symposium on Tuesday March 16th 4-6pm, cohosted by MRC and Salish Sea Institute.

Researchers will discuss published work about noise pollution in Olympic wilderness area

ACTION ITEM: Christina to send registration once it's live, encourage you to forward to contacts.

Lovel: it'll be great to have the recording so we can make more accessible to general public

Christina: Navy declined attending, referred to the op-ed that was published in Seattle times
Laura Jo: Barbara Bentley had some information about the pattern the jets took.
Christina: I'll bring up what you said about patterns. We'll be able to tell you more in April
Patti: tribes are involved because they're a federal trustee, how they practice on our fishing areas

- EPIC: work sessions and boating season monitoring *Frances Robertson*
EPIC is the Eelgrass protection Initiative Consortium. protection efforts, researchers, policy and permitting at state agencies. first meeting March 24, next a month later. First session looking at where barriers are and second session at how to break down those barriers. Third session will be of most interest to MRC members, monitoring protocols where there are buoys/anchor-out zones
News from Dana: Next Friday Forage Fish Update, results from recent data analysis and reports of what some other MRC's have been doing. Friends also does some forage fish sampling

10:26 AM MRC Member news and comments
Level: 23 contingency plans were updated to meet new state oil spill response planning requirements. I drafted an organizational sign-on I'm circulating specific to the wildlife response requirements. A lot of the other update requirement are relevant to the MRC.
ACTION ITEM: Level will share links to the comment portals

10:28 AM Back to Discussion of the mural at the Orcas Ferry Landing
Carl: I move we get an RFP for the mural on Orcas. Level seconds, all in favor. Good luck Kendra!

10:29 AM Megan moves to adjourn MRC Meeting and Convene CAG meetings, Phil seconds

10:30 AM • 2021 SRFB Letter of Intent Review
TAG met on March 1 to weed out projects and provide important feedback to sponsors early on
Sam shares screen, this is a smaller grant year, just SRFB allocation, only three projects
CAG is familiar with two of them – the Hunter Bay land bank proposal. Last year it didn't make it through State Review, they were concerned there wasn't adequate development threat. It's a different climate now. 4-acre on Lopez, 600' beachfront, the mouth of a seasonal type F stream. The second is an eelgrass restoration project. Mike Ramsey recently spoke to MRC about initial part. Working with Gary Greene from Tombolo on phase 2 of project
SJ Preservation Trust, Vickie Edwards. property has overhanging riparian habitat and feeder bluff, important for salmon. current landowners bought this property as bridge hoping to protect it.

- SRFB Grant Round Next Steps
TAG submits scores, projects must be labelled as green by whole TAG to move forward. but more money requested than we have to give, may only be able to fund one, partially fund another.
Scheduling: site visits will be virtual; May 6th MRC meeting – should we devote it to site visits?
Consensus: everyone is happy to do site visits on that Thursday (they will likely fit in one day)
Sam: TAG ranks after virtual site visits, CAG at August MRC meeting for final ranking/scoring

10:49 AM **Adjourn MRC and CAG Meeting**



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

Thursday, April 1, 2021
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom,

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 864 4507 9188
Passcode: 213735

Call in number:
+1 253 215 8782 US

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Christina Koons</i> Coast Salish Acknowledgement <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>
8:35 AM	Citizen input
8:40 AM	Action: Acceptance of March meeting minutes
8:45 AM	NW Straits Commission update – <i>Christina Koons</i> <i>Please see the attached material provided by the Northwest Straits Foundation</i>
9:00	IOSA Update <i>Tony Parkin, IOSA Director</i>
9:30 AM	MRC housekeeping <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ACTION: Approve MRC draft MRC grant application• ACTION: Approve MRC Grant draft amendments• ACTION: Select artist for Orcas Landing mural• Navy Jet Noise symposium report out (<i>L. Pratt & C. Koons</i>)• EPIC: work sessions and boating season monitoring (<i>F. Robertson</i>)• PFSS: Adopt a beach launch & GICU (<i>F. Robertson & K. Roemers-Kleven</i>)• SRKW: Bringing Killer Whale Tales to grade 5 students (<i>K. Genter</i>)• MSA Update: update (<i>F. Robertson</i>)
10:15	MRC Member news and comments
10:30 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meetings <i>Sam Whitridge</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Salmon Recovery Council-March Update- San Juan Chapter Update Progress- SRFB Grant Round Planning
11:00 AM	Adjourn MRC and CAG meeting

Attached files: March Minutes, draft MRC 2021-2023 Grant material, draft MRC 2021 grant amendment

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, Carl Davis, Kailey Genter, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, Ivan Reiff, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Beth Tate, Kendra Smith

Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public: Marta Green, Wendel Raymond, Laura Rivas, Frances Robertson, Byron Rot, , Sam Whitridge, Margaret

8:35 AM **Convene Meeting** *Christina Koons, Chair*

Begin with Coast Salish Acknowledgement: *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 **Citizen input** *none*

8:37 AM **Action: Acceptance of March meeting minutes**
Lovel’s edits are incorporated. Lovel moves to accept the minutes, Laura Jo seconds. All in favor.

8:38 AM **NW Straits Commission update** *Christina Koons*

Island County Commissioner attended. The commission is working on a tribal acknowledgement with Cecilia Gobin. Joined Long Live the Kings in their Survive the Sound campaign, anyone can join the Commission team on <https://survivethesound.org/home>. Planning a virtual conference for the fall. Puget Sound days on the hill starting at end of this month, register now at: <https://psp.wa.gov/psdoth2021.php>. 2020 NWSC Annual Report: <https://bit.ly/NWSI2020>

8:40 AM **MRC Housekeeping**

- ACTION: Approve MRC draft MRC grant application

Frankie needs feedback on a couple projects, shares screen, presentation “MRC 2021-2023 Grant”

Ongoing projects: PFSS, SRKW & marine education, MSA plan finalization

- a few questions about finishing the MSA plan, and oil spill prevention funding going forward

Marta clarifies funding details for the oil spill prevention effectiveness reporting and webinar

New projects: (agreed on in January) Derelict Vessel Prevention and Eelgrass Habitat Protection

(anchor out zone maintenance, MRC-funded area at Odlin Park), vessel compliance monitoring

Karin: Jeff and I volunteered to address the Catch More Crab initiative, once crab season opens

Frances: this grant applies starting September 2021. You should form subcommittee and start doing that as a project, doesn’t need additional funding. That can be housed as a task under PFSS.

Potential Projects: Coast Salish Film Festival, and False Bay Monitoring (support for student intern)

8:58 AM **Watershed Water Quality Monitoring Program for False Bay** *Wendel Raymond*

Original motivation was hyperabundance of ulvoid green algae in late spring/early summer. Recent hypothesis that nutrients flowing out of watershed are stimulating algae growth.

We put together a list of parameters of interest, silicate is of important for diatom growth.

Regular drone flights for aerial images to assess size of ulva growth, correlate with biomass. Stations range from completely marine at # 1 to high up the watershed at # 9. Discuss details of monthly sampling, stations 1 and 2 sampled for nutrients, stations 2, 3, and 7 measure flow rate. Sampling

effort increases in fall in conjunction with FHL Research Apprenticeship course (10-12 students), focused on research methods Instructors will be Megan, Wendel, and Brooke Sullivan. Ecology of False Bay and watershed, teaching students a diversity of methods for performing estuarine and stream sampling. Build monitoring into the class, increase to bi-weekly or weekly Kendra: it takes a while for system to get wetted, so you'll probably have low flow into December. Question: do you anticipate doing some kind of symposium or session towards end of class? we want to do a workshop in the fall, would be great to share your findings from the watershed Wendel: great idea. Final presentations are always part of these apprenticeships. We may be able to open these student presentations to the public or have another kind of public symposium Wendel discusses some previous data from False Bay and how this project may be able to use it.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Kendra: I am interested in temperature data, I'd love for you to look at the rate of warming.

Level: Coordinate with VSP? Would be good for MRC to hear more about that, learn history

<https://www.scc.wa.gov/vsp> , <https://www.sanjuanislandsdcd.org/voluntary-stewardship-program>

9:25 AM Frankie: so, how can MRC support these research efforts from FHL?

-continue outreach and education effort to public that we initiated last year

-in addition, provide an internship for a student to conduct some intertidal transects of ulvoid growth. MRC can help support and learn about these data collection techniques

- Karin is in, Kailey and Beth interested, depending on timing

Question: Does Frances have guidance to work this into the grant for the 2021-2023 round?

Consensus: yes all around

Anyone else want to help with awareness/outreach and surveys at False Bay? Beth can help

Wendel is ready to help with anything related to eelgrass

ACTION ITEM: for coast Salish film fest, Frances will flesh that out more and email for feedback.

ACTION ITEM: Frances will confirm budget once worked everything out with projects.

- ACTION: Approve MRC Grant draft amendments

MOTION: Level moves to accept the MRC Grant draft amendments as proposed

Kailey seconds. All approve

9:48 AM • ACTION: Select artist for Orcas Landing mural

Kendra Smith

We put out 6 proposals (shares screen), Kendra reviews the feedback on each proposal.

MOTION: Level moves to authorize Kendra to finalize the process given the input provided. Phil seconds. All in favor, motion passes.

ACTION ITEM: contact Kendra if you have information for the interpretive bulletin board

ACTION ITEM: We have some landscaping area to fill some gaps, if MRC members wanted to bring some rocks that reflect different geology of the Islands.

10:31 AM • Navy Jet Noise symposium report out

L. Pratt & C.Koons

ACTION ITEM: Frances will send around summary

Christina: we cohosted this symposium. Principal scientists that collaborated in noise study 100' deep off of Whidbey Island presented. Participants came from 14 states, US, Canada and Mexico

Level: followed up with Jamie Stephens, thinking about next steps after symposium and new data

E.g. create a webpage to be a clearinghouse for relevant scientific data on this topic, as a resource for the public to learn more. We'd post recording of the symposium there
Todd Haas facilitated vessel working group during Governor's task force process. Navy jet noise wasn't addressed there in the same way with respect to SRKW protection and recovery
Christina: long version of recording is on MRC website now, subcommittee will continue to meet

ACTION ITEM: Please send your volunteer hours to Frankie!

10:40 AM Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting

Sam Whitridge

- Salmon Recovery Council – March Update

-the legislature is working through 2021-23 budget, Sam reviews budget details

All day zoom retreat last Friday, looking at the way funds for salmon recovery are allocated.

Response to recent white paper that stated maybe we're not doing the right projects in right places.

Paper in response to fact that we're not seeing salmon return to extent we would like, we're at a critical juncture. strategy likely to remain same which is a relief to most NTE's

But bottom line is not enough invested to make a big enough impact, e.g Hood Canal bridge

Laura shares the pdf for the white paper Sam mentioned

Sam reviews allocation formula in terms of PSAR, capital fund to every lead entity every biennium is just above \$1million. This year is a smaller regular SRFB year without PSAR

Sam: going back to beginning of salmon recovery program, there's been a value put on 'no watershed left behind'. Not abandon any watershed for the purposes of focusing elsewhere, each is important with its own unique species and tribal concerns

Each Lead entity was given opportunity to give quick presentation about why we feel we are doing the right projects in the right places, I presented about our priorities in the San Juans

Two big things going on for this year:

- San Juan Chapter Update Progress

We met this week, Susan O'Neill from ESA (Environmental Science Associates) is back helping facilitate and coach after a 3month hiatus, now assisting via contract from PS Partnership

Sam shows timeline and workplan, aim for final product by end of 2021. We'll spend a CAG meeting reviewing nearshore and freshwater goals

- SRFB Grant Round Planning

Reminders of some upcoming dates: Grant applications due on 4/21for SRFB round, 3 proposals

Virtual site visits will take up our May MRC meeting time

Salmon recovery conference April 28-30th, if you want to register it's open now \$30 for virtual conf.

Sam urges attendance. The virtual conference format has improved over the past year

10:58 AM **Adjourn MRC and CAG meeting**



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

Thursday, May 6, 2021
9:00 AM-11:30 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom,

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 868 8862 5819

Passcode: 261376

Call in number:

+1 253 215 8782 US

Agenda

9:00 AM	Convene CAG Meeting <i>Christina Koons</i> Coast Salish Acknowledgement <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>
9:05 AM	Welcome and Introductions
9:10 AM	SRFB Virtual Site Visit: McArdle Bay Shoreline Conservation Easement – <i>Vickie Edwards, San Juan Preservation Trust</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Question and Answer period will follow the presentation</i>
9:55 AM	SRFB Virtual Site Visit: San Juan Islands Eelgrass Restoration – <i>Mike Ramsey</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Question and Answer period will follow the presentation</i>
10:40 AM	Closing Remarks and Adjourn CAG Meeting
10:45 AM	Convene MRC Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Approve April MRC meeting minutes – Christina Koons</i>• <i>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons</i>• <i>Approval of MRC 2021-2023 grant content and draft budget – Frances Robertson</i>• <i>Membership renewals – Frances Robertson</i>•
11:10 AM	Project Updates
11:30 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting

Attached: April MRC minutes, Summary of MRC 2021-2023 grant content, MRC Member list

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genther, Patti Gobin, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Ivan Reiff, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Beth Tate, Kendra Smith

Ex-officio, County support staff: Marta Green, Frances Robertson, Byron Rot, , Sam Whitridge

Members of the Public: Paul Anderson, Jenny DeGroot, Vickie Edwards, Abe Gates, Ray Glaze, Gary Greene, Gene Helfman, Judy Meyer, Kat Moore, Jen O’Neal, Mike Ramsey, Robin Reid, Laura Rivas, Paul Schlenger, Kim Sundberg, Bob Warinner, Tina Whitman, Cathy Wilson, Sandy Wyllie-Echeverria, Todd Zackey

9:01 AM **Convene CAG Meeting**

Sam Whitridge

Coast Salish Acknowledgement: *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.*

9:02 AM **Welcome and Introductions**

Introductions are made. This is the 2021 WRIA II grant round, virtual format. This is a smaller grant year, two proposals. 45 minutes each for presentations and questions, it will be recorded

Question: can you remind us about the money we gave to another program?

Sam: we did an allocation trade with North Olympic, that money will come back to us next year

9:15 AM **SRFB Virtual Site Visit: McArdle Bay Shoreline Conservation Easement**

Vickie Edwards, San Juan Preservation Trust (SJPT)

Permanent protection of priority salmon habitat is one of our highest priorities, this fits that bill.

SJPT holds lands that protect ecological value of SJ archipelago and it’s an accredited land trust.

Shows map, zoom in on SE Lopez island, review local features. critical salmon habitat, provides more connectivity. Project is in high fish-use area, identified as a PIAT II Tier I priority parcel.

Property includes upland meadow portion, riparian habitat, pocket beach, freshwater seeps.

Maps to show hydrology. Photos/videos showing freshwater flow, natural filtration, feeder bluffs

9:36 AM Everyone breaks briefly to individually watch the 7-minute virtual tour,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w1DrF7ZGFpY>

9:43 AM Vicki: landowners are motivated. Conservation easement would prevent any development or subdivision, leave this parcel/habitat intact in perpetuity. Our stewardship staff visits landowners on an annual basis. Shows table with budget. Estimated value of conservation easement, total project cost, and contributions of SJPT and landowners, review request from SRFB. isn’t enough to cover, but TAG review has discussed splitting request over 2 years.

9:51 AM **Questions for Vickie**

QUESTION: What about the Yang family who owns part of the beach?

Vickie: one goal of project is to conduct additional outreach to adjacent landowners. The Yangs are conservation-minded, haven’t yet been ready to move forward with an easement,

ACTION ITEM: Vickie will upload the presentation and make the budget a stand-alone in PRISM

QUESTION: have you applied current SMP and critical area regs, how much of property is at risk?

Vickie: haven't done GIS overlaying 200' boundary, easement would include additional protection
QUESTION: what is the current state of development in McArdle Bay, structures?

Vickie: dilapidated bathhouse on east side. Landowners want a forever wild easement.

Tina: about development, no shoreline structures. Yangs have a home that's well set back. Critical area ordinances are so specific, depends on property how far house is set back.

Paul: That's a lot of trust that shoreline regulations aren't effective in protecting these areas.

If you could provide more of the information Tina just gave in that answer that would be helpful, and the trend in variances. What we're hearing about shoreline development and real estate, how bad is the risk? Why the need for this type of protection at this site?

Vickie: county staff say trend in variances not easily accessible. Friends of SJ's may have that

ACTION ITEM: Tina can provide armor trend data, 138 new sites 1.84 miles since 2009

QUESTION: looks like trees stop at top of bluff? about site management, more vegetation added?

Vickie: Regarding revegetation, interested in buffering meadow more. Also included in the application regarding climate resiliency.

Tina: data on current and potential future forest buffer widths would help in the application

Kendra: we can say the SMP critical areas isn't working, but I'd appreciate understanding how much of that acreage is the bluff/drainage area – that is the nexus area for protection of water quality and salmon habitat. make sure we're really purchasing the part that's the most critical?

Byron: maybe you can word it so landowner part is upland and SRFB match covers the nearshore

Vickie: SJPT combined with landowner contribution covers upland portion, I can clarify that more.

QUESTION: if you do that, can you include a map so we can see the layout of those resources?

10:15 AM **SRFB Virtual Site Visit: San Juan Islands Eelgrass Restoration** *Mike Ramsey*

Goal to protect high priority multiple species recovery, restore eelgrass and develop cost-efficient methods. Review ecosystem services of seagrasses – help support salmon, protect from erosion, nursery habitat, etc. Vulnerable to anthropogenic and environmental stressors, pressure from coastal development and water quality issues. Critical fish habitat –specifically herring.

Two areas of focus – Westcott Bay and Blind Bay, historic locations of herring populations. Four methods: whole transplants, buoy deployed seeding, broadcast seeding, and seedling planting.

Whole plant transplants occurred in August 2020. 60% planted in Westcott Bay, 40% in Blind Bay.

For seeding, seeds collected from Griffin and Padilla Bays. Held seeds in culture system in labs.

Also collected for Buoy deployed seeding (BuDS) with flowering shoots, left buoys for monitoring.

Broadcast seeding in October, spread seeds along a 65m transect. Seeds spread according to source (Griffin or Padilla) along the transect.

Seedlings began to grow in culture system! Made frames and out-planted the seedlings,

Went out to Bell Point last Friday April 30, observed seedlings growing out of seedling frames.

For next project, expand restoration at both sites. At Blind Bay, broadcast seeding transect within area historically known for extensive eelgrass, includes location of 2009 herring spawn

Table with budget information. Acknowledgments to many who helped with this project

Some of these seeds sent for genetic analysis, some are growing in lab to assess response.

10:33 AM **Questions for Mike**

QUESTION: what's the survival rate once plants get more mature?

Mike: for the whole plant transplants all we have are qualitative data from dives at each site.

Westcott Bay showed 10, 50, and 90% survival. It looks like broadcast seeding is doing well

Sandy: there has been success with the seeding method in other locations like Chesapeake Bay,

QUESTION: Has the Blind Bay Eelgrass Project site been prioritized for Eelgrass warning buoys?

Beth: There is anecdotal evidence that something might be causing sediment changes in places like Westcott Bay (it's much softer than it formerly was, may not be as suitable for eelgrass growth). At Bell Point seems there is still a small eelgrass stronghold, but is there a restoration fallback plan in event larger forces are preventing Westcott Bay from being suitable habitat?

Gary: We are planning to look at sediments to see where the eelgrass grew in the past and collect samples in proposed re-plant areas to pick the optimum areas for replanting.

Tina: two questions, what are plans for this and next summer? Monitoring/planting? This money would be for 2022 and 2023

Mike: collect more seeds this summer, disperse more this summer and next spring. may seek a time extension. I may ask Kat for some funds to be used for an interpretative sign, explain buoys

Sandy: seeds often disperse under/around the buoy. Repeated application tends to show results

ACTION ITEM: Sandy will attach paper in PRISM that shows east coast seeding

QUESTION: You've demonstrated the need and critical link to herring. But the pilot is to learn lessons – may be early yet to advance. more information about why there are losses, potential of restoration –are these the right sites? What else can we learn from this study before investing more money? Do we know this is viable and viable location? Speak more to certainty of success

Sandy: some lessons from pilot included best time to collect seeds, also learned how to raise seeds in culture, learned limitations of the BuDS method. Developed the seedling frame.

Mike: the question is, why the decline? Rapid decline in Westcott Bay in early 2000's, Sandy did a study we can upload, no smoking gun. Now plan for core sampling with USGS, compare with past.

Beth: Do we know the limitations of eelgrass survival in warmer waters? more tolerant "strains"?

Sandy: We plan to gather more information relative to the relationship between the predicted increase in water (and air) temperatures and seedling survival.

QUESTOIN: it is unclear what method you are proposing to use in the 6.5 acre restoration.

Mike: the broadcast seeding, seeding buoys, and seedling frames. Need an assessment of adult transplants and if succeeding, spend some effort to add more to increase coverage.

QUESTION: within next two summers of existing grant, can we get more quantitative analysis on the existing methods? Do buoys just need repeat seedings? It seems like pilot isn't done so may not make sense to move forward with all four techniques? evaluate methods, which ones work?

QUESTION: is there a bibliography or CV in proposal? I'd like to know background of proposers

ACTION ITEM: Mike can put attachment in PRISM with proposers' qualifications and references

QUESTION: Will this project be able to continue if it doesn't receive this funding?

Mike: yes, we could keep moving. Depends on whole-plant transplants

QUESTION: will these areas be buoyed off to keep plants from being trampled? And what is cost per acre – is there only 6.5 acres or 12?

Mike: it's 6.5 at each site, so 13 total. Working with Tina to put volunteer no-anchor in eelgrass

Tina: that may not stop impacts at Bell Point, so shallow it's in boat-hauling zone. Maybe buoys

11:05 AM Closing Remarks. TAG will meet May 19th, review panel responses in early June.
Paul: I have additional comments we didn't get to so you'll see those on the applications. Segue to MRC –the use of conservation easement protection is about current regulations not sufficiently protecting. So continue to be vocal about enforcing regulations, instead of using salmon recovery funds to do it. (*Non-SJ MRC members depart the meeting*)

11:08 AM Convene MRC Meeting

- Approve April MRC meeting minutes *Christina Koons*

Kendra moves to approve the minutes, Kailey seconds. All approve. April minutes approved.

- NWSC meeting report to the MRC *Christina Koons*

Christina emailed highlights. The Commission received all funding requested from State Budgets.

- Approval of MRC 2021-2023 grant content and draft budget *Frances Robertson*

Christina: how does the work with eelgrass align with what we heard in CAG meeting today?

Frankie: this year we approved funding for the anchor-out buoys at Odlin County park. We're piloting vessel compliance monitoring there, at Bell Point and at Eastsound. NW Straits commission is working to expand voluntary anchor-out zone efforts so may be additional sites

This grant covers prevention and proactive effort, e.g. notices. Need to connect with sheriff dept.

Kendra moves to approve 2021-2023 scope of work, Christina seconds. All in favor, motion passes

- Membership Renewals *Frances Robertson*

4 positions up for renewal. Cathleen, Karin, Ivan, and Carl. Let Frankie know if want to continue.

11:21 AM **Project Updates**

- EPIC – eelgrass protection effort. A number of people interested in helping with vessel compliance monitoring aspect for this summer. Frankie sent an invitation to everyone on EPIC list to participate in third session on the May 13th, focused on monitoring techniques.

- Next is work sessions for Marine Spatial Planning effort with respect to SRKW. ready to run stakeholder engagement sessions. May 19-20 facilitated sessions to discuss alternate management options for Westside area. Frankie sent invitation to that, please RSVP.

Patti: did you send that out to Tribes?

Frankie: let's discuss after the meeting, a parallel workshop, discussions with Deborah Lekanoff.

Jeff: did you have any transboundary participation?

Frankie: some (fishers) but really tried to get local picture

- GICU was a success. Please record beach steward efforts on the PFSS website. For partners like NPS helps them to know what volunteer effort happening on their lands to help get funding

- Frankie will connect with Kailey on Killer Whale Tales.

- Kendra: Orcas Landing almost done. Mural is being finished up, delivery around May 22. Carl did a great job on bulletin board, need to start supplying information (PFSS, birds info from Phil).

ACTION ITEM: Kendra needs to buy a lock for that bulletin board

- Christina will forward information about ad hoc committee that review MRCs' participation in county shoreline master plan updates, Dana Oster is working on it

- We'll see Frankie at the June meeting and then her leave starts in July

11:40 AM **Adjourn MRC Meeting**



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

Thursday, June 3, 2021
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom,

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 812 9163 2567

Passcode: 610068

Call in number:

+1 253 215 8782 US

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene CAG Meeting <i>Christina Koons</i> Coast Salish Acknowledgement <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>
8:45 AM	Public Comment
8:55	Approve April MRC meeting minutes – <i>Christina Koons</i>
9:00 AM	NWSC meeting report to the MRC – <i>Phil Green</i>
9:10 AM	Islands Oil Spill Association update – <i>Tony Parkin, IOSA Director</i>
9:45 AM	MRC housekeeping – <i>Frances Robertson</i> Member appointment confirmations Grant status
10:00 AM	Project updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PFSS – SeaBin status and other project updates• SRKW – KWT updates – <i>Kailey Genter</i>• MSA Plan updates• Eelgrass monitoring updates
10:20	Member news and any other business Orcas Landing Opening
10:30 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting – <i>Christina Koons</i>
10:30 AM	CAG business – <i>Sam Whitridge</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recap of May Salmon Recovery Council meeting• Update on SRFB round• Prep for rollout of Salmon Recovery Chapter
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Patti Gobin, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Kendra Smith

Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public: Sharon Abreu, Marta Green, Michelle Halliday, Tony Parkin, Laura Rivas, Frances Robertson, Byron Rot, , Sam Whitridge

8:35 AM Convene Meeting

Christina Koons, Chair

Begin with Coast Salish Acknowledgement: *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

Michelline is here from the public, introduces herself, talks about using the Be whale wise flag

8:37 AM Approve April MRC meeting minutes

Christina Koons

Phil moves to approve the April minutes, Kendra seconds. All in favor, the minutes are approved.

8:38 AM NWSC meeting report to the MRC

Phil Green

Phil couldn't attend, Frankie was there to present annually on ongoing projects. Support letters went out for NWSC bid for additional funding. Cecilia Gobin from NW Indian Fishing commission also in support, it would mean an increase in funding– could be useful for shoreline restoration, etc.

Christina: I've been serving on that external relations committee, engaging with congressional staff – Frankie sent around updates on other MRCs' activities, short summaries on activities

8:46 AM Islands Oil Spill Association update

Tony Parkin

IOSA is a non-profit community oil spill response organization. various types of response. Recent focus on vessel repairs (four boats: Goose and Heron on SJI, two skiffs on Lopez), in-person training at the FH fairgrounds, half-dozen new people. New safety gear. Outreach, drills, and exercises

We're response-ready up to a point. Not yet an official Primary Response Contractor (PRC) but submitting application soon. Currently recruiting, 8-hour training only covers responders for some things. Next step is 24-hour (3 day) HAZWOPER training. Next grant will focus on wildlife response training. IOSA has an office at the dock, website and Facebook page, Tony shares contact information

QUESTIONS

Q: can you add the on-water training hours to the initial 8 hours to get the required 24?

Tony: I can't change OSHA requirements here for the 24-hour class. I understand it's onerous. there's a grace period after training year, trying to set up a rule for three years past/refresher

Q: We want a rescue tug nearby. What can IOSA do to help work toward that goal?

Tony: discusses drills with big tugs arresting tankers, available to help with this however possible

Frankie: Lovel likely knows more about this, and I forwarded webinar led by Lovel and Marta

Lovel: there was legislation enacted with intent to have an additional vessel but to have the cost shared with Canada. And a few questions, 1. Yesterday CG gave a report of the Norwester response?

Tony: yes, I was getting calls from landowners on Stuart. state and federal were in charge

Lovel: when IOSA becomes a PRC that'll help, and 2. on dispersants, Alaska has a good system for what's allowed with those and we need to look at that here – revise dispersant policy

Tony: whenever we convene regulators in a large spill event, we'd raise that issue

Lovel: and 3. With wildlife response, could IOSA provide resources for hazing of whales?

Tony: that's definitely on the radar, in Alaska we didn't do hazing for whales – more for shoreline.

Q: question about how to participate as a volunteer? Can you let local citizens know?

Tony: the training is required for participation in oil-response activities, we'll make a training calendar

Christina: in the case of a large spill will there be many experienced people coming to help?

Tony: there is a global response network. First response to wildlife may be collection and stabilization

Q: about funding, will you be able to transition to fully fund your own program without county funds?

Tony: We understand next year we need to start matching funds, we're working toward that

Q: what would it take to be a PRC and what are capability of IOSA right now in terms of response?

Tony: need a phone tree/network available 24 hours a day, training database, and equipment. Today we'd be a defensive strategy, using existing GRP's (geographic response plans). We don't yet have a response timing standard for amount of oil we could collect in a certain period of time.

9:42 AM **MRC Housekeeping**

Frances Robertson

- Member appointment confirmations, four members up for renewal this month: Carl, Karin wants to renew participation for another term. Frankie needs to check with Ivan. Cathleen needs to cycle off the MRC, everyone thanks her for her service! There will be two open seats

- Grant approved at last meeting has been submitted, Frankie working with NWSC on that

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will send a spreadsheet to members to fill in volunteer hours and submit!

9:46 AM **Project Updates**

- PFSS – SeaBin status and other project updates

Should have Seabin soon, plan to install in Deer Harbor as a pilot, set up monitoring protocol.

- "Plastic Free July", a global event, raise awareness around reducing plastic consumption. possible pledges from businesses, using social media (ours and partners like Lopez solid waste, friends of SJ's)

Karin: webpage for PFSS has a beach steward section, sign up to clean, www.plasticfreesalishsea.org

Frankie: National park service has a volunteer form for when cleaning is happening on their beaches

What to pick up? Anything that's been there 50 years+ is cultural and should *not* be picked up

Karin: research from UC on psychology of littering, new motivation to keep cleaning beaches and roads - When an area is pristine people won't litter as much. If they see litter, they don't mind adding to it. Cleaning makes a difference by setting a cultural norm, starting 'leave no trace' conversations

Phil: at SJC park they have a 'leave no trace' sign, would more of those be helpful?

Karin: already at some kiosks in county parks e.g. at Eagle Cove

Kendra: people may start to ignore the kiosk, we may look at alternatives like periodically posting social media. I have 3 cigarette butt disposal containers, I'd like to put them up around the port.

ACTION ITEM: let's find a place for those! (Need permission from Port)

- SRKW – KWT updates

Kailey Genter

Kailey is in SJ elementary school now with 5th grade. Jeff is instructing virtually with Kailey assisting.

Also boater safety signage here on SJI, altering Be Whale Wise sign to include eelgrass messaging.

- kiosk at County park will be on a concrete base so can be moved around, no digging in the ground

- Eelgrass monitoring updates

Buoys are out in Odlin so active eelgrass protection zone is in effect. Small typo in phone number – it goes to facilities manager. Beth can weld a new piece onto buoys to fix that (with public works phone number) when we pull buoys out for maintenance next year. Frankie will send emails about vessel compliance monitoring - link Christina up with Tina to set a site. Jeff on Lopez. Kailey and Phil on SJI.

The monitoring will involve an app to enter the data -take a photo of the scene and count the vessels

Question: update on what State is doing on whale flag?

Frankie: had a grant to promote the whale warning flag more broadly, a communications assistant helping with that over the summer – social media, press releases. Targeting charters, boating companies, boaters with educational videos. The State Parks Boating Program will be supplying enforcement and soundwatch with flags to give directly to recreational boaters that they contact on the water.

Q: will they also give them the brochure to explain how to use?

Frankie: They've been provided. In the fall, follow up with Patti and Deborah, get flags to the Tribes

Trying to keep "be Whale Wise" branding consistent even with so many involved

I've been asked to participate in state communications meetings, helping to put message forward

– Frankie can send posters to anyone who wants them, just let her know how many

10:08 AM **Member news and any other business, Orcas Landing Opening**

<https://theorcasonian.com/theres-a-new-experience-awaiting-you-at-the-ferry-landing/#comments>

– Frankie reads out message of appreciation from Jamie Stephens

Kendra talks about the moving moments while Patti spoke, potential future plans for the site

Lovel: two updates,

1. Article published about the tanker that transited Active pass on the 23rd (instead of Boundary pass) and fortunately action has been taken to prohibit further passage of that kind, a reminder that a spill there would definitely affect us even though that was an issue for Canada, and also,
2. The Trans Mountain pipeline expansion was approved and now construction is 20% complete. One of only options left to oppose it is to convince insurance companies not to provide coverage. June 14-21 is a week of action to reach out to insurance companies. WA State's Insurance Commissioner is urging the insurance industry in WA State to work with Tribes on adopting policies of consent on environmental projects that affect Tribes.

Christina: is there something MRC could do to help with these insurance coverage concerns?

Lovel: we could make a recommendation to County Council that they send a letter to the Insurance Commissioner.

The Council engaged in the permit review process and opposed the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion.

We're also asking for thanks to the State Insurance Commissioner for work he's doing in support of Tribes and treaty rights

– Lovel is willing to draft some language for that recommendation to Council. Can we approve the concept now and then work on the details? If approval in concept, Lovel can send out a draft letter

– Thumbs up all around, everyone approves

ACTION ITEM: Sam will coordinate with Lovel and Christina on a final recommendation to Council. next council meeting is on June 22nd, Lovel can have draft done soon

10:23 AM Briefly discuss charter review process

Christina: Kendra has presented to the Charter Review Commission (CRC). They have now voted on a recommendation by the environment committee to create an office of climate policy with an independently elected climate commissioner. I am concerned about having an elected official in what will basically be Kendra's role. I made some comments at last night's CRC meeting. Should independent climate commissioner be elected or appointed with skills and understanding of the science? concerned this role could go to someone with a political agenda. Propose MRC recommend giving voters a choice on appointed or elected person in this office.

Other Comments: - an appointed position could also have an agenda

- we've had members leave MRC because they felt they were being ignored. It's an evolving situation.

Kendra: clarify that my position is considered as appointed. We are a division of public works also concerned about politicizing the position, particularly when it comes to enforcement issues. County council can make recommendations back to the CRC

Frankie: the other difference between elected and appointed position is former just has requirement to be a resident of the county for 3 years, nothing about the education, experience, background for this work

Q: Would elected position be as effective if not reporting to county manager? We have seen strong candidates in the past, not just residents who decided to run. One element of proposal that had merit was reorganization with code enforcement falling under this new office, particularly with issues related to the environment. There's a lot of dissatisfaction with current lack of code enforcement

Kendra: we did communicate that we feel the issue is with lack of enforcement. We only have one code enforcement staff. That's an important gap –inspections when construction is occurring etc.

ACTION ITEM: table this discussion and bring it up again at July meeting, consider CRC proposal

10:52 AM **Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting**

Christina Koons

10:52 AM **CAG business**

Sam Whitridge

- Update on SRFB round

Sam reviews specific amounts for the WRIA 2 SRFB Allocation for 2021 and 2022. Sam reviews current 2021 SRFB proposals with total request amount, still falls short of allocation

Eelgrass project decided this morning to pull out of current grant round, due largely to TAG feedback.

We heard back from SRFB review panel, strong support for McArdle Bay project but want more specific information. McArdle Bay project is also strongly supported by the TAG, clear priority this year

Level: if McArdle project is awarded entire request and split over two years, will we be committed to give the remainder next year?

Sam: that's TAG's decision, we'll discuss in August. ¾ of funding this year and remaining amount next

Laura: reviews targeted funding SRFB set aside, statewide 15 lead entities compete for those funds.

11:06 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**



**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE &
CITIZENS SALMON ADVISORY GROUP**

Thursday, July 1, 2021
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom,

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 896 4803 6687

Passcode: 653828

Call in number:

+1 253 215 8782 US

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene CAG Meeting <i>Christina Koons</i> Coast Salish Acknowledgement <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>
8:45 AM	Public Comment
8:55 AM	Approve June MRC meeting minutes – <i>Christina Koons</i>
9:00 AM	NWSC meeting report to the MRC – <i>Phil Green</i>
9:10 AM	San Juan County Salmon Recovery Chapter: Progress Update – <i>Sam Whitridge, San Juan County Lead Entity Coordinator</i>
9:50 AM	Project updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PFSS- SeaBin, Plastic Free July (<i>Sam Whitridge and Karin Roemers-Kleven</i>)• MSA Plan updates- kelp/seagrass, subtidal, and intertidal sections (<i>Pema Kitaeff</i>)• Whale Warning Flag outreach (<i>Sam Whitridge</i>)
10:15 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Member news and any other business
10:30 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting – <i>Christina Koons</i>
10:30 AM	CAG business – <i>Sam Whitridge</i> Update on SRFB grant round
11:00 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adjourn CAG meeting

Attached: June MRC minutes

Committee Members in Attendance: Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Laura Jo Severson

Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public: Byron Rot, Kendra Smith, Sam Whitridge

8:30 AM *informal pre-meeting discussion about the possibility of meeting in-person*

8:40 AM **Convene Meeting**

Christina Koons, Chair

Begin with Coast Salish Acknowledgement: *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

8:41 AM **Approve June MRC meeting minutes**

Christina Koons

A few edits incorporated. No quorum - table approval until another member can join

8:44 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC**

Christina Koons

The commission has adopted a new Tribal acknowledgement. Presentation by Jefferson county, ROV's to pick up derelict crab pots. Shoreline master program work group initiated in Island county to share knowledge - would be good to have SJC representative in work group. WDFW won't be able to process forage fish samples collected by MRC's after July 16. Dana will discuss this further. Maybe we can act on this by August, request Governor's emergency budget to WDFW? Christina will keep us posted. MRC retreat will be about climate

Q: is the Coast Salish acknowledgement by county or should we follow NW Straits'?

Christina: it was offered to other MRC's to use it, but SJC already has their own.

Kendra: SJC's started as part of Earth Day 2020, Deborah Lekanoff edited, added key parts
 NWSC acknowledgement: "We acknowledge the lands we're on today are the ancestral and current homelands of Indigenous Nations who have stewarded them since time immemorial. We respect their sovereignty, support their Treaty rights, their right to self-determination, and we honor their sacred spiritual connection with the land and water. These Indigenous Nations include the Jamestown S'Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Lummi, Makah, Nooksack, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Samish, Stillaguamish, Swinomish, and Tulalip Tribes."

ACTION ITEM: discuss this with LIO, may be an opportunity to switch acknowledgements

8:56 AM **Return to approval of the June Minutes with a quorum**

Christina Koons

Phil moves to approve the minutes with the incorporated edits, Lovel seconds. Approved

9:00 AM **San Juan County Salmon Recovery Chapter: Progress Update** *Sam Whitridge*

Aiming to put out first draft by end of summer, finishing off technical details now. Bringing in CAG for before completion so we can incorporate feedback. This is a high-level quick review.

Sam provides background on the process. We were able to piggyback on PS partnership funding with ESA Environmental Science Associates and contract with Susan O'Neil. Used existing chapter updates as guide, included policy, regulatory goals, habitat and implementation targets – taking into account restoration and habitat degradation looking at goals over a 50-year period and shorter implementation goals over a 10-year period. Sam reviews an outline of the plan elements. The goals, targets, and strategies are central. For Freshwater: Relative lack of data compared with nearshore. Most goals are qualitative rather than quantitative. Identified research needs and data gaps. Built targets around flow, riparian, fish accessibility, water quality, and invasive aquatic species. Sam shows one restoration strategy as an example. Implementation targets by 2030. List of 12 Strategies: designed to address goals and targets. These have been compiled into a set of “one-pagers”. Each strategy shows habitat goals it supports and associated implementation targets. Plan a map for each showing priority areas, still GIS work to do. Planning a July meeting, aim to finish draft by Fall then bring in stakeholders for feedback

QUESTIONS

Q: in terms of regulatory, incorporate Tina's armor change analysis? And San Juan Initiative that did research work as of 2012 with 2016 report?

Sam: we'll cite those specifically in places in strategies. Also in references and context. Plan to cite all that's been done. Tina has helped a lot, especially with PIAT analysis and nearshore

Kendra: I want a table with responsible parties, and costs so I can quickly pull up locations where actions need to occur. Need management tool to convert plan into Capitol improvement, translate into necessary investment to deliver those targets. This is a heavy lift

Sam: communicating our message to PS Partnership is a priority, e.g. culverts, development

Q: about marine infrastructure - yesterday some friends who have been sailing in SJ's said 2 out of 3 pump-out stations they visited weren't open. One has been closed since covid began

ACTION ITEM: Christina find which ones not working, but should be monitored regularly!

Kendra: responsibility of Ecology, has a campaign, Pump-out don't Dump Out. We've been in discussions with them about the need here. One struggle is that we don't have wastewater treatment plants except for FH that can handle the effluent, concentrations are too high.

1. Boaters taking our water, and 2. Leaving effluent. Ecology is aware of these issues

ACTION ITEM: Kendra call Ecology, tell them which ones aren't working, ask them to present

Christina: we need review and monthly reporting on all of the pump-out stations

-everyone likes the idea of a presentation from Ecology about this, lots of concern on this

Jeff: I'll try to find out more about the mobile unit that the port of Lopez put together

ACTION ITEM: Sam send Byron the restoration/protection map to correct, give comments

9:43 AM **Project Updates**

•PFSS-SeaBin, Plastic Free July

Sam Whitridge and Karin Roemers-Kleven

SeaBin has been installed at Deer Harbor, Frankie wrote a blurb about how it arrived. It's between slips 4 & 5 on south side of the marina. There have been a lot of questions so next step is some educational signage. After summer it can be removed and installed elsewhere

Plastic Free July theme for month, attention to plastic-reduction goals. County adopted

Adopt-a-beach program on PFSS website. At Eagle Cove, 6 people, met on the beach to discuss that spot. It has become popular, frequently 75-100 cars parked. We check weekly. People didn't want to deal with taking away the garbage, Karin volunteered to take it **Catch-more-crab** program, Jeff etc. Received cards, Karin and Jeff distributed them to Kings and IMC respectively. Catch more crab is a positive campaign aiming to prevent derelict pots Kendra: now we have some help from Angela Broadlick, doing some strategic media work. Pushing out PFSS, whale flags, also writing press releases, etc. Christina is going to help with some guest articles. Our department just changed name to Environmental Stewardship dept., no longer a division of Public Works. Also added climate and sustainability work.

- MSA Plan updates – kelp/seagrass, subtidal, and intertidal sections *Pema Kitaeff*
Draft plan in final stages of being pulled together. Pema wrote a small amount of text for these three sections but mostly copied text directly from 2020 Marine Manager workshop.
ACTION ITEM: Pema reach out to Kendra in next week or two with draft plan and invoice

- Whale Warning Flag outreach *Sam Whitridge*
Already covered above, Christina: there's some great PR right now
Kendra: sheriff dept. officers have been instructed by Frankie. There's a training video
Sam: there was an article about the training video in the Islander with the video linked

10:03 AM **Member news and any other business**

Level: at last meeting discussed recommending that SJ County council send a letter to State insurance commissioner, asking them to work with Tribes, etc. There's a good summary of opposition to the project by several Tribes in a press release Earth Justice put out in 2019, that was the basis for drafting this letter. We had planned to resolve this by email, but it's still timely for Council to send this letter now. Current insurance coverage ends by Sept. 1st Everyone should have received the draft letter via email, any questions for Level about that?
MOTION: Level moves MRC recommend county council send this draft letter to State insurance commissioner, Megan seconds. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passes
ACTION ITEM: Kendra work with Jamie to get this in front of council on the 13th

Sam: next item, current comment period open through August 5th on Ecology's draft guidance for marine net pen aquaculture. Does any individual or MRC want to comment?
Context: this picks up on effort halted in 2017 after net pen failure off of Cypress island. In 2018 legislature adopted house bill 2957, prohibits new aquaculture raising non-native fish. Even native species in net pens still issues beyond collapse/escapement, e.g. Lice, disease
ACTION ITEM: Sam will send this document out to group in case anyone wants to comment
Level: Wild Fish Conservancy is providing comments, that may be a good template.
Kendra: do you have that information? We can ask the Council to reaffirm their position on net pens not allowing them in County, focus on restoration of wild salmon and steelhead.
MOTION: Level moves that county staff prepare comments for council to consider, Christina seconds, all in favor. Motion passes
ACTION ITEM: Level can connect Kendra with Wild Fish Conservancy comments

Megan: Aaron Barnett called me from the Pump-out program/WA Sea Grant. He'd like to hear directly from someone who knows what's going on with the failed pump-out station
ACTION ITEM: Christina will ask her friend to provide text regarding their experience with the pump-out station. BUT that's not a solution, there needs to be some monthly monitoring
ACTION ITEM: Christina call Aaron Barnett, 360-316-9679. a sensor to pick up July 14th, needs somewhere on Orcas with internet to download. Christina and Sam will figure out together.
Karin: write something in local paper? Pump-out don't Dump-out is a great slogan. Outreach to inform people about what infrastructure is available so they can plan?
Christina: but it's not County's responsibility it's Ecology
Megan: and SeaGrant, which is all about communication

-Christina: we're having elections as chair and vice-chair in August, Karin and Christina want to continue in their roles. Christina can't attend next month, and Karin will preside.

-Circle back to discussion of meet in person: Maybe quarterly meeting in person?
- if anyone is un-vaccinated, they should mask up and unvaccinated people can un-mask.
Everyone likes the idea of zoom meetings with quarterly in-person meeting
Kendra: so maybe September could be in-person? and then December, March and June
-some presentations often better in person but some may be more able to present via zoom
Kendra: from efficiency and climate footprint perspective, less car and ferry travel for staff.
-possibility for blended in-person/zoom meeting, with a central mic if wi-fi is sufficient

10:29 AM **Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting** *Christina Koons*

10:29 AM **CAG business** *Sam Whitridge*

- Update on SRFB grant round

coming to end of grant round, at August meeting need to approve ranked list and decide if we're submitting this 1 project for (partial) funding, the McArdle Bay easement proposal. The project sponsor met with SRFB review panel. Vickie made small updates they asked for and re-submitted. TAG meets July 13 for final evaluation then send recommendation to CAG. Sam will send score sheets via email, please come to August meeting ready to review and approve. If not available for August meeting, please send scores in advance
Q: how does partial funding work?
Sam: agree to commit remaining funding out of next year's allocation.
ACTION ITEM: Sam will send link to PRISM site and describe new attachments in email
-some discussion of public money used to protect land only accessible to private owners
Level: if one of our priorities is protection as opposed to restoration, easements are one of the most effective tools other than outright purchase. But this is a good policy discussion. May be helpful for us as a group to have some sort of decision tree to identify priorities.
Sam: nearshore protection is one of our strategies, that helps. I'll bring this to July 13 TAG

10:43 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**



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

Thursday, August 5, 2021
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom,

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 846 4546 3034

Passcode: 542912

Call in number:

+1 253 215 8782 US

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene MRC Meeting <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i> Coast Salish Acknowledgement <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>
8:45 AM	Public Comment
8:55 AM	Approve July MRC meeting minutes – <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i>
9:00 AM	NWSC meeting report to the MRC – <i>Sam Whitridge</i>
9:10 AM	Update on impacts of recent heatwave on Marine species – <i>Megan Dethier, Friday Harbor Labs</i>
9:25 AM	MRC housekeeping – <i>Sam Whitridge</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair and Vice-Chair Elections• Revisit MRC Coast Salish Acknowledgement (<i>Jeff Dyer</i>)
9:45 AM	Project updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PFSS – SeaBin and other project updates (<i>Karin Roemers-Kleven and R.P. Oates</i>)• Other project updates
10:10 AM	Member news and any other business
10:15 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting – <i>Christina Koons</i>
10:15 AM	CAG business – <i>Sam Whitridge</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final CAG Scoring of 2021 SRFB Proposals
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

Attached: July MRC minutes

Committee Members in Attendance: Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genter, Patti Gobin, Phil Green, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Beth Tate

Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public: Steve Bernheim, Angela Broderick, Marta Green, Sasha Horst, R.P. Oates, Laura Rivas, Sam Whitridge

8:31 AM **Convene Meeting with Coast Salish Acknowledgement**

Karin Roemers-Kleven

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.

8:32 AM **Public Comment**

none

8:33 AM **Approve July MRC meeting minutes**

Karin Roemers-Kleven

MOTION: Lovel moves to approve July minutes, Megan seconds. All in favor. July minutes are approved.

8:35 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC**

Sam Whitridge

Christina attended last Friday representing SJC, highlights: Tom Cowan updated executive committee about retreat sessions in September, planning to return to in-person commission meeting in December/January. The State of the Salish Sea report is available for download, Sam will provide link. Interest in supporting an MRC internship program and opportunity. Next Commission meeting in late August, either Sam or Christina will attend.

8:38 AM **Update on impacts of recent heatwave on Marine species**

Megan Dethier

The heat dome was high air temperatures, coincided with lowest tides. an overview of who's working on what: Chris Harley in BC, Swinomish, Jamestown, Skykomish, WDFW monitoring closely, West coast intertidal monitoring system. WA SeaGrant, shellfish growers cautiously sharing info. There will be scientific manuscripts.

Reports from Chris Harley: long term sites in Northern Salish Sea and Straits of Georgia, massive mortality of mussels and barnacles, billions dead. He's gathering quantitative data and will report broadly. A lot of mortality of shellfish (clams and oysters) in the Salish sea, also moon snails and sand dollars. Large oysters were ok but small vulnerable ones suffered almost complete mortality. In some places they were fine – like mouth of Dosewallips, maybe cool freshwater inputs? Beach aspect (direction the beach faces) and shade makes a difference. Low tides happening up to 3 hours earlier down sound than in San Juans and that makes a difference. Some embayments reported dead smells and a couple of weeks later shut down for swimming due to bacteria loading. When animals are stressed become more susceptible to bacteria and infection. Recovery: in shellfish some species will still be able to broadcast larvae. But in some cases, like with cockles, even with new larvae it will take at least 10 years to replace large old animals. A lot will depend on next spring. Not just single events, but how often events happen.

QUESTIONS

Karin: what is the domino effect into the ecosystem, which species will suffer from loss of food?

Megan: more effect from loss of eelgrass that provides habitat, local loss of food for things like sea birds. Nobody is counting amphipods that shore birds feed on. Concern about sea birds' loss of food from that type of organism, but they reproduce rapidly so if refuge populations they should be able to repopulate

Laura: COASST should be getting some data to understand the impacts of the heat wave on seabirds

Megan: this is a nearshore intertidal problem, not ocean heat-blob type

Phil: on sea birds, unrelated: Protection Island has a fire. People should watch out for rhinoceros auklets. 35 nesting pairs there, they're being impacted. Keep your eyes out for these seabirds, they come to the SJ's

Level: interesting that shaded beaches are less impacted, another reason why vegetation on shorelines is so important. I wonder if that will be highlighted in the research? Shorelines lose vegetation with development
Megan: I'm sure that'll come out from Chris Harley's research in BC. Most organisms we see dying are the shellfish that are mid and low shore, almost never shaded even in a pristine beach. I'm sure WDFW is looking at summer forage fish loss. In SJ's population of surf smelt spawn in summer (most places they spawn in fall/winter)

8:57 AM MRC housekeeping

Sam Whitridge

- Chair and Vice-Chair Elections

Karin and Christina interested and willing to stay in their roles as Chair and Vice-Chair, anyone else interested?

MOTION: Megan moves to re-elect Karin and Christina, Phil seconds. All in favor. Karin and Christina elected

- Revisit MRC Coast Salish Acknowledgement

Jeff Dyer

Jeff pulled up acknowledgement used by NWSC, Sam sent it out prior to the meeting.

Jeff: It resonates, clearly acknowledges what the coast Salish tribes consist of, adopted by NWSC.

Patti: I helped worked on it, it's a good acknowledgement. When we can take ownership by saying "we acknowledge" it's a powerful statement to the past, present, and future. Tribal attorneys thought it was great too

MOTION: Jeff moves to adopt this acknowledgement crafted by NWSC, Phil seconds, Megan thirds. All in favor. The proposal is approved as provided by Sam. Major changes: "we acknowledge" and lists Tribes in last sentence.

- Return to in-person meetings

We had discussed return to in-person meetings by September, but now Covid situation has changed. It's a moving target. County may issue new guidance for meetings in coming weeks

Karin: from my perspective as a nurse, the fact that we have breakthrough infections in people who are fully vaccinated is troubling. We may have people who aren't fully vaccinated. May be safer to remain virtual

Patti: agreed. Just in Orcas but I was shocked by how many people not wearing masks. Samish County has a huge uptick. Maybe this uptick is from tourism, maybe revisit in the Fall

- Request from WDFW to monitor mussels, Putting out mussels and monitoring for chemical pollution

Megan: need volunteers to put out blue mussels in small cages in the intertidal. Pilot studies in 2012-13.

Randomly-selected site along Golf course road, seeking a pair of volunteers to walk on ferry, meet up with WDFW, get mussels in cages, take them to the site on nighttime low tide between November 4-10th, and then retrieve again at end of January on a night-time tide, and then again walk on ferry to deliver mussels

Karin: I'll do it, sounds like fun

Megan: great – I'll pass on your name to WDFW folks. They do this all around the sound and compare results

Beth: I can also help with that on SJI

9:12 AM Project updates

- PFSS – SeaBin and other project updates

Karin Roemers-Kleven and R.P. Oates

R.P.: SeaBin arrived on June 21st, installed on June 24th. Took electrical work to run with American 30amp marine plug, then worked great. About the Seabin: imagine an empty bucket submerged in water. surface water falls into bucket, pump at bottom of bucket. Catching surface plastics and oil absorbent pad inside catching surface oil sheen. Volunteers check every day, catching 4-30lbs. of biomass, sort and get about 2 lbs. of foam from micro-plastics in Deer Harbor. Plan to move to West Sound where there's more oil, may need to change pad more often. Interested in how to expand, where could this be useful? It's not a 100% solution but does a great job of absorbing surface oil from bilge pumps and microplastics at marina and harbor, could mean less cleaning beaches.

QUESTIONS

Karin: when you scale this up, put into Port of FH, how many SeaBins would it take to stay on top of things?

R.P.: they require daily maintenance (1-2 people about 15 minutes to change out bag, sort out plastics and toss critters back into ocean), could be a dock worker as part of their duties. Takes 30 minutes to move it. If there are 3-4 SeaBins in port of FH they could be moved around. They can last 2-3 years

Karin: what critters are you finding and are they surviving?

R.P.: pipefish, comb jellies, crab larvae, isopods, moon jellies seem to be alive. herring and stickleback stay a few feet away, maybe they don't like the sound or bubbles. The only fish we catch are ones we think are already dead. No problems with the Seabin harming critters. Rare to find one killed by Seabin. Still water at bottom with pump

Phil: Port of FH had a spill of about 200 square meter this past week. Could that be used on that kind of spill?

R.P.: it works via surface tension. The draw is 3-4 m in calm water, works great in marinas. For a spill of that size, when oil pad becomes saturated just change it out. There are points of attachment, could sew in extra oil pads. Maybe draw could be 3-6m. For a spill that large it wouldn't be a complete solution but could help a lot

Laura Jo: how much do they cost, could I buy one at West Marine?

R.P.: West Marine doesn't carry, there are distributors, price is between \$6-7K shipped. lasts up to 3 years, runs on 10cents electricity per day, filters 160gallons per day. Gives awareness, questions from 5-10 people every day

Laura: Is there evidence people are littering more often knowing that SeaBins are around as a safety net? I'm interested in the outreach and social effects of the sea bin presence

R.P.: I think people are being more careful and mindful with their boats knowing things need to be cleaned up

Karin: for PFSS, research on the social outfall of littering found people are prone to litter less if area looks pristine. You should share this more with other MRC's. Sasha Horst is here and can take this to the NWSC

Angela: I'm the newest member of environmental stewardship team on the county, helping with outreach around SeaBins. We're working on a sign, should be universal as bin gets moved. Has a QR code leading to a program page, plan to do some social media around that. Hoping to get outreach to the public around SeaBins

LauraJo: if you have a press release you can share, sailing and yacht clubs have newsletters and would share <https://seabinproject.com/locations/case-studies/>

- Other Project updates

Karin: No recent PFSS update, no meeting this past week. Plastic free July went well. If you cleaned a beach, can take it to the dump for free. If something is too large to move please contact park ranger or Karin.

Angela: I'm supporting the NFWF grant whale flag project in Frankie's absence, had a great past month, sent out Be Whale Wise materials targeting charter companies, marinas, focus on further down sound. 192 flags sent out in July, majority to larger boat-share companies, connected with some folks there very interested in the project.

Phil: update on eelgrass monitoring at Bell Point, I've been there 4 times and Kailey has too. Sasha – are we getting the app for that? Is it possible to make changes in the request for it? Because it seems we need 4 photos

ACITON ITEM: Sasha will check with Dana on that

Jeff: I've been doing Odlin park, not much to report. Eelgrass buoys seem to be working but not many boats inside the buoys when I've been there, even on weekends and July 4th. As far as monitoring goes, possible to have a park representative who's there all the time taking data? Because I'm just there randomly a few times a month

Question: Is there going to be a kiosk at Odlin, any update on that? Answer: that may need to wait for Frankie

Karin: Catch More Crab program, we gave flyers to different businesses to insert in bait bags of crab pots.

Jeff: I stopped by IMC shortly after dropping off pamphlets and they were being put in there.

Karin: would you be willing to stop by and ask for update? I'll circle back to King's Marine.

ACTION ITEM: let's get an update on that in the next month

Level: on education about crab pots, can we provide that along with new licenses getting issued?

ACTION ITEM – Karin will ask about that, businesses have been very receptive

Megan: it's clear people who buy crab licenses don't read the info provided, we see crab pots right around labs

Angela: Is there a digital version of the Catch More Crab brochure I can share on social media?

NW Straits Foundation resources here: <https://nwstraitsfoundation.org/project/recreational-crabbing-resources/>

Sam: Heart of the Salish Sea project with uses the "explore the salish sea" curriculum. SeaDoc society inviting a few schools to use it, based on their nature guide. Mira, education coordinator at SeaDoc, reached out to Frankie for MRC to give project support to local schools. Next step: SeaDoc hosting a virtual workshop on Aug. 31st with teachers, any MRC members want to attend? If not Frankie or Sam will. Karin may be able to attend

9:48 AM **Member news and any other business**

Level: Update on letter to insurance commissioners?

Sam: not yet, but Jamie sent comments on the draft net pen guidance, he said letter regarding insurance for Trans Mountain pipeline issue would be top of agenda for next council meeting, was there a deadline on that?

Level: No specific deadline on the letter to the WA State Insurance Commissioner. There was a hard deadline on the net pen comments.

ACTION ITEM: Sam will share comments on net pens with Wild Conservancy folks

Level: reminder, WA state insurance commissioner issued a statement in March supporting the practice of insurance receiving free and informed prior consent from Tribes affected by projects. Canada requires insurance for transmountain pipeline. The pipeline expansion project has been permitted, 28% constructed, efforts to block it through the court system haven't succeeded. Campaign to get insurance companies not to support the project as a last effort. Thanking commissioner and asking him to require free and prior consent from First Nations and Tribes affected

Patti: have you worked with Tribes on language for this?

Level: I can re-send the materials that were provided to County Council. At the time when Transmountain pipeline expansion project was going through permitting our Council opposed it. EarthJustice represented Tribes in WA and an EarthJustice press release about Tribes' opposition to the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project was provided to the Council along with the draft letter to the Insurance Commissioner.

ACTION ITEM: Sam can re-send the information that was provided to Council

Level: but no, did not work directly with Tribes on language in draft letter.

Patti: we the Tribes need to be sending an identical letter

ACTION ITEM: Patti will work with some folks to send their own letter, wants to see the draft letter from MRC

Patti: we've been working with Earth Justice, lawsuit in the works claiming indigenous rights. And about SeaDoc materials, why didn't they contact local Tribes? Tulalip is writing their own "since time immemorial" curriculum

Marta: putting out a press release regarding Pacific States – British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force's recognition of Marta's work over past 5 years with a Legacy award. Recognizes the work of oil spill risk consequence work, and vessel drift risk analysis work that found a rescue tug could be effective here. Want to leverage that award and get the word out, remind everyone we're still working on this. None of our ERTV work would have happened without Lovel's expertise and guidance!

10:01 AM **Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting**

Christina Koons

10:01 AM **CAG business**

Sam Whitridge

• Final CAG Scoring of 2021 SRFB Proposals

Wrap up grant-round, due August 15. CAG needs to score this one project, small grant round this year. Sam shares spreadsheet summarizing 2021 SRFB budget grant round, project is requesting \$416,250. We can fund this project at 75% this round, leaving \$107,648 required. Next year is a big grant year with nearly \$2million.

The TAG did their final review and scored this proposal highly. SRFB investment would be leveraged with 60% match by owners to put this property into conservation easement. Project cleared by SRFB review panel Sam shares TAG scores, based on benefit to salmon and fit-to-plan. High scores for this project: 9.9 on fit-to-plan. Need to enter data from CAG on socioeconomic benefit. Sam has already received scores from a few members, run through each member here, enter scores, then entertain motion to adopt this project to put forward to State for funding. Then address issue of not having total funds, question of allocating remaining amount for next year
ACTION ITEM: after this meeting please send Sam scoring sheet Carl, Ivan not here. Christina's score = 9
Jeff: scored 9, vacillating between 9-10. SJPT has a great record, complements other projects, community benefits
Kailey: scores 7. If a proposal receives partial funding, can they not move forward because didn't get full funding?
Sam: Vicki from SJPT was ready to not receive full funding, prepared to phase this in over two years. If allocate remaining funds, should consider SRFB - available sooner - rather than PSAR funds not available until July 2023
Karin: score 9

Beth: score 9, the more we can conserve lands not already developed the better. Especially with development
Laura Jo: will send score offline

Megan: scored 6, this project should be funded. Socioeconomic reasoning somewhat irrelevant, outreach/jobs not happening here, this won't be publicly accessible so doesn't fit the criteria – that's why low score
Lovel: score 10 based on the 60% match from SJPT and property owners, and the fact that conservation easements are the most cost-effective means of protecting shorelines as opposed to outright purchases. There isn't public access and opportunity for outreach but bang for buck in terms of protection

Patti: score 10, need to do everything we can to protect, losing more than gaining, need to protect into future
Phil: echo Megan's comments, it should fully go forward but doesn't check any socioeconomic boxes. But that score is irrelevant when we're only 15% of total score. It's a great project, just trying to go by rules

Sam: I'll follow up with Laura Jo. Carl and Kendra are both away. We have a quorum. Final score is 8.88/10.

MOTION: formally recommend to RCO for funding in 2021? AND provide remaining required fund for next year?

Megan: move on both, Lovel seconds and amend to allocate SRFB funds for balance. All in favor, motion passes.

Salmon Recovery Chapter Update – making progress. Working to have first draft for subcommittee to review in early September. Spending August writing elements, working with ESA consultants helping to make it look good. After TAG review in early September will circulate to MRC and other stakeholders

Next MRC meeting Christina will be back, Frankie out for one more meeting and then back in October.

ACTION ITEM: if anyone has a speaker idea for September's meeting, please send them to Sam

Marta: I also want to acknowledge the many years of MRC members being out in front on the ERTV efforts – Laura Arnold, Lovel putting strategy together with me 5 years ago and guiding every step of the way

10:24 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**



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

Thursday, September 2, 2021
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom,

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 841 1928 9860

Passcode: 951570

Call in number:

+1 253 215 8782 US

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene MRC Meeting – Christina Koons Coast Salish Acknowledgement <i>We acknowledge the lands we're on today are the ancestral and current homelands of Indigenous Nations who have stewarded them since time immemorial. We respect their sovereignty, support their Treaty rights, their right to self-determination, and we honor their sacred spiritual connection with the land and water. These Indigenous Nations include the Jamestown S'Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Lummi, Makah, Nooksack, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Samish, Stillaguamish, Swinomish, and Tulalip Tribes.</i>
8:45 AM	Public Comment
8:55 AM	Approve August MRC meeting minutes – Christina Koons
9:00 AM	NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons
9:10 AM	Presentation/Discussion: Marine Birds of the San Juan Islands– Breck Tyler, Friday Harbor Labs
9:55 AM	MRC Housekeeping <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MRC Retreat Date (<i>Sam Whitridge</i>)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Plan for discussion re: County infrastructure improvements (<i>Christina Koons</i>)• County Vaccine Personnel Policy (<i>Sam Whitridge</i>)
9:55 AM	Project updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plastic Free Salish Sea (<i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i>)• Eelgrass monitoring (<i>Phil Green and Jeff Dyer</i>)• Catch More Crab program (<i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i>)• MSA update (<i>Sam Whitridge</i>)• Heart of the Salish Sea Project (<i>Sam Whitridge</i>)
10:20 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Member news and any other business
10:30 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting – Christina Koons
10:30 AM	CAG updates/business – Sam Whitridge <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upcoming SRFB Meeting (Sept 22-23)• Salmon Recovery Investments in Infrastructure Bill• Report on meeting with new RCO Director, Megan Duffy• Salmon Recovery Chapter progress update
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

Committee Members in Attendance: Carl Davis, Kailey Genter, Patti Gobin, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Kendra Smith,

Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public: Marta Green, Lucas Hart, Kat Moore, Laura Rivas, Frankie Robertson, Breck Tyler, Sam Whitridge

8:32 AM **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement**

Christina Koons

We acknowledge the lands we're on today are the ancestral and current homelands of Indigenous Nations who have stewarded them since time immemorial. We respect their sovereignty, support their Treaty rights, their right to self-determination, and we honor their sacred spiritual connection with the land and water. These Indigenous Nations include the Jamestown S'Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Lummi, Makah, Nooksack, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Samish, Stillaguamish, Swinomish, and Tulalip Tribes.

8:33 AM **Public Comment**

none

8:34 AM **Approve August MRC meeting minutes**

Christina Koons

Lovel made edits regarding transmountain pipeline expansion project, Sam shares screen to show the edits. MOTION: Phil moves to approve minutes as edited, Carl seconds. All in favor. August minutes are approved.

8:35 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC**

Christina Koons

Shoreline master program learning group, Karin interested in serving on the committee, starts in late September. Christina reaching out to folks for the charter review committee, if interested contact her. NWS conference is virtual, starting on October 13th. All MRC members encouraged to attend, <https://nwifc.org/publications/state-of-our-watersheds/> - Christina ordered a hard copy for the County. - Caroline Gibson memorial on October 24th, NW maritime center in PT, hope for a virtual attendance option
Lovel: listened to PSP leadership meeting yesterday, it was recorded, prospects for increased salmon funding

8:43 AM **MRC housekeeping**

Sam Whitridge

• MRC Retreat Date

Sam Whitridge

Lovel: could we meet in person if we could do it outside? Mike's café, Jackson Beach, or Fairgrounds
- November 4th, plan for big open inside space at Fairgrounds for a plan B if weather is too bad for outside
Frankie calls for retreat agenda items for the retreat. Christina, Lovel, Laura glad to help with retreat planning

• County Vaccine Personnel

Sam Whitridge

Kendra: if we meet in person, county staff and volunteers will need to be fully vaccinated by October 31st

• Plan for discussion re: County infrastructure improvements

Christina Koons

Good topic for MRC Retreat. Would be helpful to know what is County's vs. MRC's role in planning?
Kendra: we're looking at outside sources, RCO, grant rounds. Please let us know if you hear of others
Christina: subgroup through NWSC working in legislative process to reinstate earmark that funded MRC's.
Lucas: meeting at Padilla Bay 9/7 with senator Murray's staff, reinstating bill to reauthorize NWSC
Q: would that pay for a full time marine manager position?
A: Depends whether just appropriation goes through or also re-authorization of NWSC, money would probably go through NOAA, it's possible could be used for staff but need to come to an agreement with NOAA
Lovel: sounds like MRC should have 'shovel-ready' projects in case there's additional funding available

9:00 AM **Presentation/Discussion: Marine Birds of the San Juan Islands**

Breck Tyler:

Questions: is there an ongoing population decline in marine birds? Is community composition changing?
Conducted a series of student-based studies: 2005-2020, ship-based transects in SJ channel weekly through fall

Findings: no downward trend in abundance over the decade between 2006-2016. No data shown past 2016 but suspect lower numbers due to the blob in recent years. Species composition: ranking of abundance per year shows that glaucous winged-gull and common murre were the top two species every year. All top 10 are gulls and alcids. Seems like community structure hasn't changed much over last 10 years. Tide use varies by species

QUESTIONS:

Karin: that's the data up to 2016, what about rapid climate change and major changes in environment now?

Breck: if you're interested in those data, contact Jan Newton currently teaching the PEF course.

Kendra: question for Patti, aware of any traditional knowledge/work done around marine birds?

Patti: not directly aware from Tulalip, will check with First Nations colleagues in BC

Carl: is there a lot of interest in Marine Bio program at FHL?

Breck: yes— also a class for undergrads in summer. UW just added a marine biology major

Frankie: are student reports available online? Can they be shared with us/me?

Breck: they are available, contact Mason in the FHL office

Carl: what about tufted puffins, are they in danger what's the status? Historically were there a lot here?

Breck: never abundant in inland waters, mostly breed on open coast rocky areas. We do have an abundant puffin but it's misnamed – it's called rhino auklet and if it were renamed could gain a lot more funding

Phil: tufted puffin was listed at some level as endangered. This is southern extent of its range in inland waters.

Karin: how many of the birds discussed depend on herring?

Breck: Gaydos paper says over 100 birds depend on marine resources, at least 70 could be herring dependent

9:49 AM **Project updates**

• Plastic Free Salish Sea

Karin Roemers-Kleven

Frankie and I joined Seadoc's Heart of the Salish Sea Project, talked with local educators about STEM projects.

Frankie, question for Patti: have there ever been clam gardens in the San Juans?

Patti: yes, need the rocky areas and cool currents around the SJI's. A book called Coast Salish clam gardens.

ACTION ITEM: Patti will connect Frankie with expert on clam gardens

• Seabin

Sam Whitridge

Signage completed, Kendra has it. R.P. Oates picked up Seabin for service. It's ready for a new marina.

Frankie: plan to connect with Tony with IOSA to see if we can partner with them on collecting and supplying it with the correct oil pads. Want to put it in port of FH or Roche next summer. requires maintenance, R.P. has been a fantastic volunteer for regular weekly maintenance. We'll need a dedicated volunteer or team here on SJI.

Question: have we done any public relations about the Seabin?

Sam: Angela drafted a press release, it's still under review. The signage will help a lot.

• Eelgrass monitoring

Phil Green

Phil: I've been out to Bell Point 5 times total, a few in July. We're going to wrap up after Labor Day weekend.

Christina: I've been watching at Orcas, a lot of rafting up and dinghies

Phil: unfortunately, the app isn't going to be rolled out, I was expecting it in early July

Christina: I've been downloading the paper forms and attaching the photos to an email

Frankie: Just send them to me at MRC, that's what Jeff does

Karin: is anyone monitoring other eelgrass?

Phil: Drew Harvell monitoring around False Bay and 4th of July beach

- Catch More Crab program

Karin Roemers-Kleven

Talked to contacts at King's market, they're willing to put flyer out as people buy licenses. We have no way of measuring success of that. Crab fishing continues Thursday-Monday until Sept. 30th.

- MSA update

Frankie Robertson

Hope to send drafts on number of chapters by end of the month, also a chapter on protected and management areas that includes links to maps. Aim is to be useful to managers but also for landowners when they're putting together plans for shorelines. Need to prioritize issues like shoreline armoring which have increased. Need to look at issues like increased vessel traffic in the context of climate change.

- Growler Jet noise symposium

Christina Koons

Our MRC team was invited to visit Naval air station on Whidbey Island to meet with their scientists. That'll happen after covid when it feels safe to gather, want to encourage relationship - let's keep this invitation in the minutes.

Patti: if I can help with the Navy let me know. When Tribe is at the table can say some things that have an impact.

Christina: I'll send them a letter reminding of invitation and that we'd like to follow through in future

9:48 AM **Member news and any other business**

Carl: I went to Alaska, 3K miles 109 days, boating around southeast. I'll put together videos and photos.

Lovel: I forwarded an email with comment opportunity on a draft scope of work on an Ecology study to examine effectiveness of an additional response towing vessel, comment period ends September 30th. Does MRC want to suggest comments for the council? Christina, Carl, Jeff on oil spill subcommittee may have thoughts. ESHB 1578:

<http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2019-20/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/House/1578-S.SL.pdf?q=20210902083312>

ACTION ITEM: Lovel will send out doodle poll to suggest times for the subcommittee to meet to discuss support

Phil: FYI – I'm going in for ankle replacement surgery October 1st, won't be able to put weight on it

Frankie: we have two positions open on the MRC, I suggest R.P. Oates (history as a kayak guide)

Please spread the word to other folks with skills, knowledge and time available to offer

Jeff F. and Cathleen resigned from MRC. We still have Ivan from Pacific Whale watch association.

We don't have anyone from fishing, recreational or commercial, or ports and marinas.

ACTION ITEM: form a subcommittee to discuss new membership. Frankie & Christina to meet in October

10:35 AM **Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting**

Christina Koons

10:35 AM **CAG business**

Sam Whitridge

Action item: earlier this week Sam sent out request for funding Salmon Point restoration project on Lopez from Friends of San Juan, going into construction this coming Tuesday Sept. 7. Need \$9,300 advance from

SRFB. If we approve this today, funds can be added next week. Megan, Jeff, and Kailey already replied with approval

MOTION: Phil moves we move forward to approve funding, Karin seconds. All in favor, the motion passes
Laura: the PSP letter of support is already drafted for Carrie (PSAR lead) to sign and send over

- Upcoming SRFB Meeting (Sept 22-23)

Sam plans to attend, this is where projects from 2021 grant round will get approval (including MacArdle Bay)

- Salmon Recovery Investments in Infrastructure Bill

Recently passed bill included major funding wins for salmon recovery and ecosystem restoration projects.

- Report on meeting with new RCO (State Recreation and Conservation Office) Director, Megan Duffy

This is a critical juncture for salmon recovery in WA, influx of federal dollars plus support from Governor.

- Salmon Recovery Chapter progress update

We have a first draft. Committee meeting next week for first round of edits then distributing document out to more stakeholders toward later Sept/early October for review.

- Updates from the PSP

Laura Rivas

Puget Sound ecosystem monitoring program has a newsletter. shares links from IPCC atlas, fun things like rockfish kids' book, resources, job opportunities and events. sign up to receive the PSEMP newsletter here, https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAPSP/subscriber/new?topic_id=WAPSP_113

- LIO's are collectively working in coming year on issue of unpermitted and under-permitted shoreline armoring. Drawing on data generated by Tina and funded by SJ LIO. Gaining traction – if you hear of anything on this issue, please pass it along to Laura. Laura leading but it's a collaboration among LIO coordinators

- working on action agenda updates for 2022-26, phase 4 – strategies to actions. Local partners invited to participate between Oct-Nov in workshops, targeted topics. Please consider joining

- we sent out a call on NTA (near term actions), project owners are encouraged to report – even if no progress. Pacific NW citizen science summit by Friends of WA state invasive species council, both October 26-27, 9am-noon

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpnwcitsci.org%2F&data=04%7C01%7Caura.rivas%40psp.wa.gov%7C5005756b9cb340e7736208d96d638009%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637661096395418258%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=gBuXd%2BBQDgQAKMlwM8hKqn32gjaAVwMbe004NnQc5vQ%3D&reserved=0>

Kat: McArdle Bay will be one of three projects highlighted for the board, all are acquisitions

Other issues: looking at a riparian planting requirement based on recommendations from WDFW, adding in a buffer requirement (mainly on rivers/streams but also for marine areas). A couple of projects looking at for next year are acquisitions of uplands – that's been an issue in the past of how much are non-salmon focused and how we define where riparian benefit ends, those will be topics for next year as well as riparian planting costs

11:00 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**



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

Thursday, October 7, 2021
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 899 8180 4536 / Passcode: 144306
Call in number: +1 253 215 8782 US

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene MRC Meeting – Christina Koons Coast Salish Acknowledgement <i>We acknowledge the lands we're on today are the ancestral and current homelands of Indigenous Nations who have stewarded them since time immemorial. We respect their sovereignty, support their Treaty rights, their right to self-determination, and we honor their sacred spiritual connection with the land and water. These Indigenous Nations include the Jamestown S'Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Lummi, Makah, Nooksack, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Samish, Stillaguamish, Swinomish, and Tulalip Tribes.</i>
8:40 AM	Public Comment
8:45 AM	Approve August MRC meeting minutes – Christina Koons
8:55 AM	NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons
9:05 AM	MRC Housekeeping <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Volunteer hours for July-September• MRC Retreat planning
9:15 AM	2021 Project Review & Achievements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MSA plan update (<i>Frances Robertson</i>)• Eelgrass monitoring (<i>Frances Robertson</i>)• SRKW westside management effort (<i>Frances Robertson</i>)• Odlin County Park Kiosk (<i>Frances Robertson</i>)• Killer Whale Tales (<i>Kailey Genter</i>)• Plastic Free Salish Sea (<i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i>)• Catch More Crab program (<i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i>)• Impact of Navy Growlers Symposium (<i>Lovel Pratt</i>)
9:45 AM	2022 Project Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MSA Plan – Threats and Management Actions• Plastic Free Salish Sea• Derelict Vessel Prevention Surveys• Eelgrass monitoring• False Bay monitoring
10:15 AM	Member news and any other business
10:30 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting – Christina Koons
10:30 AM	CAG updates/business – Sam Whitridge <ul style="list-style-type: none">• San Juan chapter update final stages• SRFB updates
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

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

Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public: Marta Green, Laura Rivas, Frances Robertson, Byron Rot, , Sam Whitridge

8:34 AM **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement** *Frances Robertson*

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*

8:36 AM **Approve September MRC meeting minutes** *Christina Koons*

MOTION: Megan moves to approve minutes, Laura Jo seconds. All in favor, minutes approved.

8:37 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC** *Christina Koons*

Met in September, Gubernatorial appointee Cecilia Gobin participated. Frankie, Christina, Sasha & Lucas met. Frankie: congressionally directed spending, congress allocating money with one-time spending that needs to occur within next year. need to have shovel-ready projects by November 10th. Also, seeking reauthorization of NWSC needed to have funds appropriated, could mean funding directly to MRC's. NWSC is a priority for Senator Murray. Christina: acknowledge Chris Castner, was an EPA rep for this region, now a gubernatorial appointee. Also, politics with redistricting, legislative committee asking MRC members if aware of county politics or items pending in which legislative committee could help. Want to understand relationships with county council members

8:43 AM **MRC housekeeping** *Frances Robertson*

• Volunteer hours for July-September
Please send hours in an email to Frankie, hours in meetings or engaged in projects etc. Frankie sent spreadsheet

• MRC Retreat Planning *Frances Robertson*

Annual Retreat focus on MSA, 1. New/emerging/ongoing threats to conservation targets in the MSA, and 2. Management recommendations that will shape MRC's work for next 5-10 years
Meet in person? Brickworks, Labs or Grange. Can meet if all are vaccinated and masked. limit food & beverage. Karin, Laura Jo, and Christina offer places to stay on SJI and transportation via private vessel if needed.
ACTION ITEM: Laura, Christina, and Lovel volunteer to help with Retreat planning. November or December date.
ACTION ITEM: Frankie will send out parts of MSA draft for feedback and then send out to the whole committee
Regarding Coast Salish Acknowledgement, developed for NWSC to encompass 7 counties. Simpler one for SJC.
Patti: Rather than name Tribes, encompassing with 'Coast Salish people' is safer. not speaking for any particular Tribe but for the MRC, acknowledging indigenous people. NWS felt they needed to name all their partners
Kendra: SJI acknowledgment being voted on to add to County's charter in November, simpler version aligns
MOTION: Lovel moves to switch back to previous acknowledgement, Megan seconded. All in favor, approved.

8:55 AM **2021 Project Review & Achievements** *Frances Robertson*

• Killer Whale Tales *Kailey Genter*

-we got Killer Whale Tales in to two elementary schools in FH and on Orcas

Kailey: it was a big effort. Hope to keep it going into future years and extend to Lopez. Orcas did 4/5th grade and FH did 5th grade. Frankie has pledges students made about what they plan to change/protect for the Salish Sea

- Odlin County Park Kiosk

Frances Robertson

-we have the boater kiosk at Odlin County park with information about eelgrass anchor-out zone.

Patti: this kiosk is beautiful and sensitive to historical area. Suggestion – pictures can be meaningful. It would be wonderful to have a simple coast Salish design on the roof of the kiosk specifically for the SJ's. Also want to share, our department puts on a language camp once a year, would be wonderful to have Frankie come. They enact several stories, one about the resident killer whales and how they saved us from starvation. It's about youth

Carl: on Orcas have a company that makes designs out of steel, can make design Patti is talking about

- SRKW westside management effort

Frances Robertson

-Westside community engagement sessions, held virtually. George Harris (member of task force) commented, 'we grappled with this issue for two years in vessel working group but made more progress in last 6-9 hours'

- Be Whale Wise

Frances Robertson

-Continued with outreach, thanks to Angela. Connected with rotary clubs as preferred speaker, getting requests to talk about impacts to whales. This fall want to work with Patti to get flags out to Tribes

- Plastic Free Salish Sea

Karin Roemers-Kleven

Launch of beach steward program, GIC, successful trial of Seabin in both Deer Harbor and Westsound. Collected debris and oil. Plan to talk with IOSA about partnerships, volunteers for putting this into Port of FH next spring

- MSA plan update

Frances Robertson

Frankie completed drafts of 5 out of 7 chapters, out for review by MSA subcommittee and in Dept. of Environmental stewardship. Put in a new chapter about marine protected areas with links. Working on a web-based map to toggle between different types of habitats. Also added a chapter with links to related plans

- Eelgrass monitoring

Frances Robertson

Eelgrass anchor out zone and vessel monitoring – thank you Kailey, Phil, Christina and Jeff. Anchor out at Odlin County Park – fewer boats than expected, used mooring buoys. Could staff for park report if they see anything?

- Impact of Navy Growlers symposium

Christina Koons

Science symposium on implications of Navy Jet Noise for the marine environment.

Christina: talked about turning recording into small segments on MRC website, still want to do that. More research coming out later this fall. If we want to do another symposium or a series, would likely be equally well-attended

Level: an invitation was extended to MRC to visit Navy base on Whidbey, should take them up on that

Christina: since Navy is well-funded and does research and this is bad for SJ', could Navy install some mooring buoys for us, help with marine infrastructure/research? Rick Larsen said yes, if we have ideas let him know

Byron: The Navy has money set up to mitigate for their noise. May be able to be used for MRC stuff.

- Work with Marta on ERTV was published

Level: instead of oil spill preparedness, wording should be about Oil spill *Prevention and response preparedness*

Frankie: also acknowledge the support for letters bidding for support for NWSI federal funding

Kendra: Marta will be working on a letter from County Council and the Gulf Islands to Ottawa, requesting that one of ERTV's on the coast to be moved inland. There are two vessels there on the coast along with the Neah Bay vessel.

Level: Ecology will be looking at changes to code with regard to bunkering (fueling ships). Ecology announced a rulemaking looking at requirements for ships that conduct oil transfer operations.

Carl: this is a great issue to go to the public, letters to editor in Island Sounder and San Juan Journal.

-Grand opening of Marine interpretative site on Orcas with panels installed, Patti helped a lot. Mural and interpretative display board. Opening with Jamie Stephens, Krista Davis, Deborah hosted the event.

Kendra: It was a powerful event. Hope to continue to add elements. We have a small video features this opening

Patti: I was impressed that many Tribes sent representatives and leaders Need more relationships like this

ACTION ITEM: Patti, “the site is begging for a carving to welcome people”, we’ll follow up on that figure

Christina: I talk about this project a lot, would be great if every ferry landing could have interpretative materials

Patti: Mukilteo ferry landing? All artwork came from Tulalip. Doesn’t need to be elaborate

Christina: one more thing –conversations toward a national marine heritage area.

Frankie: there’s a meeting coming up on the 19th. They have a series. A number of islanders participating

Patti: I’ve been dealing with Ebey’s landing – their narratives are wrong there. And with regard to SJI’s, Yellow Island TNC is participating. I feel like a trinket from a carnival, and I’m not a trinket – I’m a sovereign.

10:08 AM **2022 Project Plans**

- MSA Plan – Threats and Management Actions

Plan to have one meeting per quarter dedicated to getting one chapter ironed out. Plan to have whole draft complete by end of May so Frankie can compile together for peer review in early summer (June/July)

- Killer Whale Tales

Continuing partnership led by Kailey, wrangling teachers (room for help)

Patti: have you looked at Billy Frank’s salmon defense website? They have some curriculum for schools

Kailey: FHL also goes into schools, their curriculum aligns with standards. I’m can pass along to teachers

Patti: Salmon Defense Website, may have funding <https://salmondefense.org/projects/educate/bfj-salmon-video/>

- Plastic Free Salish Sea – continuing. Hope for sub-committee to launch adopt-a-road program. Hiring a new solid waste coordinator, hope they can take this program on together with Karin. More information on the website. Continuing to participate in beach cleans and put SeaBin back in. Karin and Laura Jo on PFSS subcommittee, looking for more with relationships with schools. Katie Fleming is a great resource. Kailey agrees to be involved

- Derelict Vessel Prevention Surveys

Marta runs derelict vessel removal program, initiate surveys. should establish a subcommittee, set monitoring protocols/timing, prioritize vessels for removal, outreach. Jeff, Phil on subcommittee, add Carl, Laura Jo

- Eelgrass monitoring

Buoy deployment/maintenance contracted to Jenjay. Jeff, Phil, Christina, Kailey involved. Add Carl as volunteer

- False Bay monitoring

Megan and Wendel co-supervising intern on monthly monitoring. Conduct visitor evaluations like last season, Megan, Karin, Kailey, Beth. partnered with Friends of False Bay. Megan provides a review of data being collected

Frankie: I’ve listed the projects with deliverables in our grant. Doesn’t include Oil Spill Response Vessel

Christina: also, monitoring/tracking vessels in the SJ’s. aerial survey to compare with data from 2010

Megan: Sandy WE has been doing some monitoring, **ACTION ITEM:** Megan to see if their findings can be shared

Carl: also, possibility of big money coming our way. Should we have a long-term project subcommittee?

Jeff: Marine Protected Areas?

Megan: some history there leading to MRC's. Protected Areas need to be agreed upon by multiple agencies

Frankie: an aerial survey of vessels and incorporating AIS data. Opportunities to partner with State parks.

Christina: could we partner with the Navy for that as well?

ACTION ITEM: brainstorm more ideas and bring them to the retreat!

Kailey: as far as oil spill response, what could citizens do to help? Brigade?

Frankie: we already have IOSA volunteers. I can put anyone in touch with Tony Parkin

Marta: IOSA training meeting at SJI fairgrounds this Saturday (Carl will be attending)

10:37 AM **Member news and any other business:** just thank you Frankie, we're happy to have you back!

10:38 AM **Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting** *Christina Koons*

10:39 AM **CAG updates/business** *Sam Whitridge*

- SRFB updates

SRFB had annual approval meeting, awarded 21million of grants to 105 projects, including MacArdle Bay project, featured as noteworthy project, particularly the landowner piece. Now get ready for next big grant round in 2022

- San Juan chapter update final stages

We have a draft in place. Susan O'Neil's team at ESA provided design/layout and technical review. Goals and Targets with 13 strategies to meet them. Aim to wrap up by end of the year, before 2022 grant round to help project-sponsors. Grant round gets rolling in January when we send out requests for Letters of Interested Next step is to send this out to reviewers, get feedback to incorporate over next couple of months.

ACTION ITEM: Sam to send draft to CAG for review, get back to Sam by November with comments

Question: when/how to bring in full council? We can send now to Jamie as our Salmon Liaison. If not being written into county code less need for full council approval, important for plan to be incorporated into county work

Jeff: seems good to have council involved. So Jamie reviews, approve by all CAG, and then CAG sends to council?

Sam: yes, CAG sends with recommendation. Good timing would be December meeting (after incorporating edits)

Kendra: we should get CAG comments first and then send him a final version. Also I need to see this draft, look at it in context of MSA and climate resilience work. Council's last meeting is early December

Sam: we can have an ideal timeline, but getting the document right is biggest priority – we'll do our best

ACTION ITEM: Sam will send this draft out to CAG after this meeting, looking forward to comments

Laura: a few updates from the Partnership,

1. Monitoring program announced its funding awards in September. **ACTION ITEM:** Laura can send those
2. State of the Sound report out on November 1st
3. Action agenda development, updating for 2022-2026, 26 strategies were approved now moving on to actions intended to describe activities rather than specific projects. A series of workshops starting Nov 2 and going into December, choose to attend what you want. register on website: <https://psp.wa.gov/identifying-actions.php>
4. Sam has been asked to contribute to list of Legacy Portfolio projects. Expectation that some money is coming, based on federal infrastructure packages. All Puget Sound watershed leads are being asked to provide these.
5. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference is scheduled, open for submissions

11:00 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**



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

Thursday, November 4, 2021
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 841 6455 5477 / Passcode: 050285
Call in number: +1 253 215 8782 US

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene MRC Meeting – Christina Koons Coast Salish Acknowledgement <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>
8:40 AM	Public Comment Approve October MRC meeting minutes – Christina Koons
8:55 AM	NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons
9:05 AM	MRC Housekeeping <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MRC Retreat planning• Federal funding possibility – potential projects and utilization of funds (Action required)
9:20 AM	MSA Plan – Overview of effort to update the plan to date – Frances Robertson
9:45 AM	Cargo vessel near miss incident – Lovel Pratt
10:00 AM	Projects and other news <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EPIC session 4• Plastic Free Salish Sea – new County Solid Waste Program Coordinator• Derelict Vessel Prevention Surveys• Public comment on Pinto Abalone Recovery Plan. (Action required)
10:15 AM	Member news and any other business
10:30 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting – Christina Koons
10:30 AM	CAG updates/business – Sam Whitridge <ul style="list-style-type: none">• San Juan chapter update review
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

Attached: October MRC minutes

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

Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public: Angela Broderick, Tom Cowan, Sasha Horst, Kat Moore, Tony Parkin, Laura Rivas, Frances Robertson, Byron Rot, Sam Whitridge

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*

8:36 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC** *Christina Koons*

External Relations Committee working on authorization with various congressional offices, Patty Murray. NWSI symposium on Climate Change, November 18th. Rachel Aronson presentation, director of "Quiet Sound", working on impacts of noise in PS, focus on large ships. <https://maritimeblue.org/quiet-sound/>

8:38 AM **Approve October MRC meeting minutes** *Christina Koons*

MOTION: Jeff moves to approve October meeting minutes, Phil seconds. All in favor, minutes approved.

8:39 AM **MRC housekeeping** *Frances Robertson*

- MRC Retreat Planning

Annual Retreat on December 2nd, 8:30am-2pm at Brickworks, in person. Focus on Marine Stewardship Plan – threats, management strategies and actions in strategic plan. We invited Julia Parrish and Tessa Francis to present.

- Discussion of what to review to prepare for retreat, Frankie will provide overview of MSA plan progress

- we can invite NWSC staff, like Lucas, and plan to invite Tina since she's been part of MSA update subcommittee.

ACTION ITEM: now that we have a date and Brickworks is booked Frankie needs to send out invitations

8:48 AM **MSA Plan – Overview of effort to update the plan to date** *Frances Robertson*

Over 2020, hosted Marine Managers' Workshop in March to identify and draft the biodiversity targets. Received updates on status of key species and habitats. Identified knowledge gaps and threats. Developed two new chapters to the plans including Strategies/Strategic Actions. Survey following the workshop, supplemented with reports and peer-reviewed literature. Plan includes map of Critical Habitat & Protected Areas, plan to make public web map to toggle between different layers/areas. If you see something missing let Frankie know!

ACTION ITEM: everyone can add comments in the google doc

Kendra: truly critical habitat does not include public access like camping, human impact activities

Megan: that's a good point, one threat that kept coming out in our MSA plan was public access, trampling, etc.

Key goal of this chapter is to create map in which layers can be turned on and off. Chapter looking at relevant management efforts and plans (list of various plans), also transboundary efforts.

ACTION ITEM: if other efforts/resources would be useful additions, please add those in if you see them

Remaining effort to finish the plan is drafting the core threats to the MSA, management strategies/actions

Christina: Island County (Whidbey & Camano) published 'Getting to the Water's Edge', by Sound Water stewards. I'll purchase a copy for the County, bring to retreat, maybe SJC wants to publish a similar booklet to describe the MSA plan.

Sound Water Stewards, <https://soundwaterstewards.org/web/>.

Getting To The Water's Edge. <https://www.swsmarketplace.org>.

Phil: Ecology website showing shorelines with public access. But many errors like hours to Yellow Island access

ACTION ITEM: Phil will send Frankie the link to Ecology's map

State of the Salish Sea publication is reasonably priced, can also be downloaded for free, Sasha sent MRC a copy. Partnership released State of the Sound as well that might be a good resource - <https://stateofthesound.wa.gov/>

At retreat: finalize threats and discuss strategic actions and management needs, tangible actions. Then over next year – less presentations at MRC meetings/more discussions on this. Layout of work on MSA plan over next 6-8 months. Aim: full plan ready for peer review in June, compile reviews in July and present to council in August

9:11 AM Federal funding– potential projects and utilization of funds (Action required) *Frances Robertson*

Ideas to commission by November 10th with budget e.g., increased staff for MRC, focused monitoring of vessels in county (re-do aerial surveys done in 2010), could use AIS data and combine efforts, assessment of county buoys.

Next step is Ecological Value Assessment for Conflict Analysis– i.e., Identifying low/high risk areas, human impact

Kendra: it's about a reasonable level of marine infrastructure, clarity about where there shouldn't be anchoring.

Frankie: 2-year effort, year 1 is understanding of human use (vessels) and second year is GIS analysis

Megan: That'll require more than GIS, you'll need ecological assessment work, so hire an intern/grad student?

Kendra: we have existing GIS data plan to use, no resources to create new data. stack layers, put into a GIS model

Megan: we have many valuable habitats, I'm concerned thinking during these processes can get too narrow, some things may not be mapped at all, like rocky shores where there's high biodiversity. Maybe I should be involved

Frankie: the ecological value assessment is an outcome of one of the core strategies. We have funding within the MRC grant for staff time and for a GIS intern to bring layers in from County system into a web-map format. But for coverage of monitoring vessel presence and ecological value assessment we'd be looking at federal funds

Christina: opportunity for local fundraising, NWS Foundation or local donors, may be worth a needs assessment

Jeff: As far as monitoring vessel presence, if using federal dollars – breaking down to commercial and recreational. AIS is required on commercial ships of 300 Gross Tons, and whale watch boats required to have it as part of license.

Jeff also provided the following note via email: As a side comment, 300 gross ton vessels and larger are required by SOLAS agreement to have AIS when on an international voyage. However, USCG requirements for commercial vessels when navigating in US waters per 33CFR part 164.46 require AIS on:

Jeff also provided the following note via email: As a side comment, 300 gross ton vessels and larger are required by SOLAS agreement to have AIS when on an international voyage. However, USCG requirements for commercial vessels when navigating in US waters per 33CFR part 164.46 require AIS on:

- Self propelled vessels 65' or more in length
- Any towing vessel 26' or more of 600hp
- Passenger vessels documented to carry 150 or more passengers.
- All commercial fishing vessels
- Passenger vessels carrying <150 passengers cruising at 14 kts or greater

Frankie: you can track these with apps as well but also an AIS receiver at Lime Kiln, there are ways to get at that data

9:36AM **Cargo vessel accident and fire**

Lovel Pratt

Lovel: sent an email October 26th with information [about](#) the Zim Kingston container ship that was just outside entrance to Strait of Juan de Fuca when storm and winds came up, Tuesday October 21st –lost over 100 containers before anchoring at Constance Bank, near Victoria BC. On October 23rd fire started aboard ship. Assumed fire started in containers with hazardous material that were damaged.

Fortuitous event: two ships with fire-fighting capabilities had just returned from collecting plastic in the Pacific, they helped contain the fire

There were reports that J-pod swam north past the ship on the 24th, there are oil spill contingency plans that include plans for monitoring the whales and hazing protocols to keep them away from an oil spill if necessary. Was there an effort to do that during the Zim Kingston event? Lovel asked Coast Guard, waiting for reply

Ivan: no professional operators were out that day because of the weather. May be hydrophone data

Frankie: Hazing would have been challenging from smaller vessels. These events happen in unfavorable conditions

Level: the two ships that were able to respond and supply firefighting resources could have provided noise deterrents

Tony: We dodged a big one. It would have been overwhelming for us if wind was in different direction.

Frankie: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/054f6746857242128298d53d220d76f0> - 'nurdles' travel along Sri Lanka

Level: discusses more details of storm in October, vessels 'invited' inside Strait of Juan de Fuca during storm. Need to be prepared, have ERTV, recognize benefit of multi-purpose ships with fire-fighting capabilities

Jeff: Question, Tony what could be put in place/who was informed/chain of command? incident response drills?

Kendra: Brendan Cowan will be moving up to Public Works. Tony's point about not hearing from Coast Guard, State.

Tony: we could have protected only minimal amount of shoreline, rugged coast on west side we couldn't protect

Level: could we ask Brendan to join us at next meeting to debrief and discuss lessons learned?

Carl: alarming new hazard when container ships are hanging out off WA coast in winter. Risk of containers going over, overloading – who regulates that? Would be great to have a coast guard person come talk about response.

Frankie: such a presentation could not happen until January.

Level: would be great to have that in addition to Brendan. Canada just announced investigation, a lot had to do with the weather

Tom Cowan: This should be elevated to the County Council demanding a briefing on the event.

Christina: when ship originally identified having problems it was in the National Marine Sanctuary so NOAA should be involved. Beyond County council, legislature should look at it. Is there a way to request report/study?

ACTION ITEM: Kendra commits to getting a debrief on council agenda. I'd love to see Tony and Brendan there, maybe Level can rep MRC and share presentation/photos. Early December or 29/30th are available for Council

Consensus: should be the earlier the better, while this event is fresh in memory, November 29th

Level: here's a link to a zoom video of press conference of the two ships that provided fire response: A Great day for the Oceans: System 002 Proof of Technology Press Conference | The Ocean Cleanup:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDGVNYOnunc>

Frankie: if we keep consuming, ships will be there. They're the biggest threat to whales, colliding during shipping

Tony: Big escort tugs carry concentrated foam, but may not want to get too close to large container ship

Level: one more hero in this saga – Captain and small crew remained aboard on ship to coordinate response

Laura: no regional discussion. I can bring it up. I'm sure Todd's tracking it, I can follow up if he has information

Level: The next meeting in December of the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee is a joint meeting with Canadian version of harbor safety committee

10:15 AM **Projects and other news**

- EPIC session 4

Frankie

November 22nd, let Frankie know if you need an invitation

- Plastic Free Salish Sea – new County Solid Waste Program Coordinator

Frankie

We are thrilled to have Katie Fleming come aboard in the Solid Waste dept. and addressing plastic use

- Derelict Vessel Prevention Surveys

Frankie

Trying to get out on port vessels to do this survey, I'll set up a subcommittee meeting after that effort next week

- Public comment on Pinto Abalone Recovery Plan (Action required)

There's still time, this may come up at the retreat if not then in January, comment period is open until Jan. 6, 2022.

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will work on letter of support and send to council on MRC's behalf

10:19 AM **Member news and any other business**

Karin going to Anacortes to meet WDFW for the mussel exchange, Carl will take his batch to Orcas.

ACTION ITEM: Frankie & Karin will connect about helping with this

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

Christina Koons

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

Sam Whitridge

- San Juan chapter update review

Chapter update process - final stages to getting the plan finalized and adopted. Finished first draft in September, in October circulated to CAG, TAG, other reviewers. most feedback is positive. Need to review remaining comments, update, have next draft ready in December. Discussion points for CAG with feedback needed:

-outline lead entity timeline for adopting plan, how/when bring in county council? integrate into county code?

Kendra: as with MSA plan –anything written in code around issues of protection strategies, identified important habitats with maps/locations in terms of applications and permits, if written in code then must be considered and need to provide mitigation if impact. It would be great to bring up MSA and salmon recovery plan together in a code amendment and have maps overlap. Something to keep in mind for June/July.

Sam: Timeline for 2022 grant rounds, starts in January. full application submitted in April. Hope this plan would be in place as a resource for that grant round (to sponsors and regional reviewers). if CAG adopts this plan, it seems important go in at same time as MSA plan. Could be a phased-in plan with lead entity adoption by summer.

Phil: I agree with getting the plan into county code. If it's not in code, it may not get looked at

Sam: We are planning to have it reviewed by internal committees, stakeholders, sponsors, agencies, Tribes.

Consensus: in favor of going to council by next summer to get this submitted into code

- Some edits to get through before 2022 grant round. Desired timeline is to send ahead of January meeting with comments incorporated and decide at that meeting if we're ready to adopt plan or if it needs more work.

ACTION ITEM: if you still want to provide comments to Sam, please do so between now and early December

Level: I support idea of integrating this into county code. Adoption of maps will be important step.

Sam: yes there are maps, a lot has come out of PIAT work. Important that these plans reference each other

Phil: could one specifically codify the other one?

Kendra: probably what happens is council adopts both plans and then adopts the maps into code and part of requirement for critical area review, that would be the key piece. That existing maps need to be updated in terms of land-use planning. Caveat that would say, 'these maps or any best available new science'

Sam: certain areas, especially in freshwater, where we don't have the data. Identified qualitative goals and looking to adaptive management to fill in strategies

- Prioritization of Salmon Recovery Strategies,

-TAG has protection of intact nearshore habitat as top priority. If it comes down to two projects that are closely scored, TAG wants to see protection rise to the top, partly due to regulatory issues and adequacy of regulations. Also cost effectiveness of protection vs. restoring degraded sites

Kendra: I'm concerned about cost of shoreline property purchase, properties owned by wealthy create an exclusive park-like scenario, paying public dollars to prevent future activity there. It's a resource issue of how we allocate money and to whom, I think we should establish some criteria i.e. 'not pay for upland parcel',

Jeff: agree with Kendra. Protection is a priority, but I don't think it's a top benchmark. Restoration may have more value in certain situations, need to evaluate every project individually

Level: I support preservation as a priority, prevents the need for future restorations. Cost effective to protect vs. restoration. Property changes hands (unless it's purchased outright by Land Bank or Trust) and no assurance it'll remain unimpacted. Easements are effective. And it's not reasonable to characterize all shoreline property owners as wealthy, some easements have helped families stay on their properties

Kendra: agreed, but still stands that if they're the only ones with access it's an equity issue. Maybe part of easement requirement would be that owners can't access property either if in conservation mode

Byron: it's difficult to acquire a property. The review panel already only want to acquire the marine riparian piece. May be useful to have Tina come talk about what Friends is doing for conservation easement planning. County code is lacking in terms of shoreline protection. Consider why TAG wants to prioritize protection
Sam: Discuss this more in January meeting, solidify concerns into specific criteria, not reorganize priorities
Last thing – about the Plan revision process, Sam shows list of organizations that have reviewed so far (i.e. NOAA, few Tribes, Friends, etc.). Any others who should review? If you think of any let Sam know

10:59 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**

DRAFT