



Please Join Us

We are currently accepting applications for new members who want to be involved in ways to protect the San Juan Marine Stewardship Area.

The MRC was established in 1996.

Our mission is to protect and restore the marine waters, habitats and species of the Salish Sea to achieve ecosystem health and sustainable resource use.

San Juan County Marine Resources Committee meets every first Wednesday of the month.

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San Juan County Marine Stewardship Area

San Juan County Marine Resources Committee Southern Resident Killer Whale Protection

Friday, October 27, 2017

Workshop 1:30 - 4:30 PM Open House 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Brickworks, Friday Harbor

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

Identify and prioritize *individual* and *local community* actions that will help protect SRKW from three known threats: Contamination; boating/vessel noise; and limited food/resources/Salmon/ Prey

Elicit personal commitments to act by workshop participants on priority actions.

AGENDA

1:30 **Welcome / Introductions**

1:45 **Workshop Purpose and Context**

- What the workshop *will* address (individual and local actions)
- What the workshop *will not* address (state, federal, other types of actions)
- Please note that we will only briefly review the three threats to SRKW that are the focus of the workshop and will not go into depth about the science that supports these topic areas.

2:00 **Potential Actions to Address Three Threats**

- Overview of Online Community Survey Results
- Twice Rotating Breakout Groups tasked with:
 - Reviewing list of local actions identified in the survey & previous MRC efforts.
 - Adding to/editing list

3:30 **Prioritizing Local Actions**

- Breakout Group Facilitators shares local actions for each of the three known threats: pollution; boating/vessels; and limited food resources.
- Participants vote on priority actions for each category of threat

Personal Commitments to Act – Defining Community Leadership through Personal Action

3:50 • Participants identify one action per threat that they will commit* to take over the next six months to a year and write on a postcard.

*The Commitment should go beyond what is being done now and should “hurt” a bit (financially, convenience, pleasure or otherwise) – the commitment is part of your sacrifice for the Orca. Participants share their commitments (if they choose).

Summary of Priority Results, and Next Steps

4:15 **Close Workshop**

4:30 **Open House**

5:00 - 6:30

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San Juan County Marine Stewardship Area



Sponsors



Contamination - Pollution

| Overall Goals | Individual Actions | Local Actions | Beyond | Notes |
|---|--|--|--|-------|
| Support toxics and plastics reduction and recycling of reusable materials | I will bring my own bag, request non plastic bags and buy products considering the packaging | County and City should promote programs that reduce use of plastics and other toxic products on the islands. | Support regional recycling strategies that avoid shipping our materials to China and other foreign ports. | |
| | I will clean and properly recycle items eligible for recycling; and confirm recycle status to avoid being a spoiler. | County should increase outreach and education on ferries, boats, destination points and internet media on how to minimize visit impacts to the Islands and on SRKW. | Work with regional partners and State to continue to advance oil spill prevention and response preparedness | |
| | I will participate in daily and bi annual litter cleanup events to reduce waste and plastic from entering the marine environment. | County should develop projects to remove creosote pilings from the marine environment at County owned facilities by 2022 | Encourage Canada to continue to advance improvements in its wastewater treatment facilities throughout the Salish Sea (Victoria has tertiary treatment scheduled to be operating by 2020). | |
| Preserve and protect clean water | I will dispose of toxic products appropriately through household hazardous waste events, and limit additional purchases of such items in the future. | City of Friday Harbor and other Island sewerage treatment districts should increase their treatment capabilities to the highest standards possible by 2022, and enable septic pumping operators to use the facilities in the fall-spring off-season. | Work with regional partners and State to continue to advance storm and surface water management to protect water quality of the Salish sea | |
| | I will purchase and use only non-toxic products | County should optimize its storm and surface water program to ensure clean waters exist or are improved throughout the County. | | |
| | I will regularly pump out and maintain my home septic system (especially after heavy summer use). | County should work with Washington State Ferries to fully treat storm water runoff from ferry terminal areas. | | |
| Utilize a portion of existing local funding mechanisms to support SRKW recovery and marine protections. | I will avoid the use of fertilizer and herbicides/pesticides on my lawn | County should further improve its land use planning requirements to protect against further degradation of environment, especially marine waters and shorelines. | | |
| | I will ensure proper septic pump out and fueling containment on my boat | County should assign some funding from local sales, lodging, and/or real estate excise tax to support conservation actions that will preserve the marine environment and support SRKW recovery, which are major drivers of the local economy. | | |
| | I will maintain my motorized vehicle to reduce pollution of impervious surfaces. | | | |

Vessel - Boating - Noise

| Overall Goals | Individual Actions | Local Actions | Beyond | Notes |
|---|--|---|---|-------|
| Reduce vessel and boat noise to enable SRKW to echolocate their prey and communicate | I will limit the use of depth finders, fish finders and other noise making equipment near areas of SRKW core habitats or when they are present. | County should assess its boat fleet and migrate to increasingly quiet equipment as they are replaced (define standards) as a matter of County policy. | Increase State and Federal enforcement and compliance of current boat approach rules protecting SRKW | |
| | I will slow my boat to less than seven knots in areas known to be occupied by SRKW | County should require vessel and boat slow down like the ECHO program in County waters throughout the critical summer months of SRKW use of area. | Apply organized political pressure with the shipping industry to help facilitate changes in boat/vessel use and noise impacts | |
| Reduce the number of boats present around SRKW to provide free range of movement to forage and rest during critical time in the San Juan Islands May-September. | I will avoid actively pursuing or viewing of SRKW from boats, and encourage others to limit their boat use for watching SRKW as well. | Local NGO's should partner with regional marine engineering schools, local fishing and whale watching fleets to innovate and incent quieting of all boats in the region. | Coordinate regionally with entities responsible for preventing and managing an oil spill emergency | |
| | I will migrate to a quieter boat components within 5 years or as equipment needs replacement | County and other Parks providers should create additional low impact land-based viewing opportunities for SRKW (and sustainable transportation options for getting to these locations) starting in 2018. | Request research and enforcement methods for SRKW migrate to lower impact drones, to reduce the noise from these vessels as well. | |
| Redirect viewing activities towards healthy pods (transients) and other charismatic megafauna that are not endangered. | I will avoid purchasing goods that are shipped from overseas. | County should enact a mandatory refugia location for SRKW to feed and rest May-Sept along the deep water wall habitat and Salmon Bank used by Chinook and SRKW on the west side of San Juan Island by May 2018. | Organize to stop harmful Navy activities (sonar, percussion testing, etc.) in the Salish Sea and Pacific Ocean. | |
| | I will support a mandatory quiet / no boat zone(s) May-September in the deep water wall habitat and Salmon Bank used by Chinook and SRKW on the west side of San Juan Island | County should require Automatic Identification System (AIS) on all boats in the County by 2022, to help avoid collision with large ships, aid in emergency response, and allow remote monitoring and enforcement of SRKW boater proximity laws. | Work with State, Federal, Tribal, Canadian, and First Nation interests to encourage limiting oil tanker traffic throughout the Salish Sea | |
| Increase boater awareness and education regarding operating in San Juan Islands Marine Stewardship Area and all marine wildlife | I will slow/stop and provide a red flag / diver down warning to fellow boaters when I spot any whale or other marine mammal near my boat. | County should work with local stakeholders and PWWA to review their operating standards and develop a limited access permit system for SRKW and other commercial whale watching in the County as soon as possible but no later than Spring 2019. | Coordinate vessel traffic slow down efforts with Canada | |
| | I will support "pay to play" user fees for boats and wildlife viewing visitors to generate dedicated local funds used to protect SRKW | Local NGO's should work with schools to help engage youth in designing more captivating Be Whale Wise boater education programming. | | |
| Create a local funding mechanisms to support Marine Stewardship and SRKW Protection Activities | I will ride the ferry less to reduce my noise footprint from larger vessels | County should enact an Orca conservation fee charged to patrons of commercial tours, including outside the County operators operating in San Juan County waters by Spring 2019. Funds should be restricted in use for SRKW recovery actions. | | |
| | | County should enact an annual entrance permit for all boats and vessels entering the San Juan County Marine Stewardship Area to dedicate towards enhanced boater education of MSA/ Orca, boat traffic tracking over time, and enhanced enforcement of marine protection as needed by June 2018. | | |
| | | County or NGOs should increase the hydrophone network in key locations to monitor noise levels and responses to various management measures in 2018. | | |

Prey - Chinook Salmon

| Overall Goals | Individual Actions | Local Actions | Beyond | Notes |
|---|--|--|--|-------|
| Maximize Chinook Size (>40+ lbs) to Support SRKW Individual and Pod Food Sharing Needs | I will avoid eating any Chinook (King) salmon until they are no longer listed as an endangered species under the ESA. | County should protect the core deepwater habitats trough along the west side of San Juan Island for large migrating Chinook April 1-October 15 to the Fraser River starting in 2018 | Encourage State, Federal, Tribal, Canadian and First Nation interests to further limit ocean and Salish sea harvest of Chinook Salmon until populations have recovered to sustainable (pre 19xx's levels). | |
| | I will voluntarily reduce my fishing and not pursue any Chinook until they are no longer listed as endangered. | County should be present at the North of Falcon fisheries meeting and encourage fisheries managers to temporarily reduce Chinook harvest in the County (and elsewhere) in order to rebound SRKW food supply starting immediately. | Legislate a Cascadia wide fisheries gear type and catch size to favor pass through of large mature fish (for SRKW consumption and genetic benefits) | |
| Increase Adult Chinook Populations (Columbia & Frasier Rivers, Oregon and Washington Coastal Rivers) | I will avoid boating / recreating in core fish habitat areas | County should work with fisheries managers to enact a no fishing zone off Salmon bank (Westside San Juan Island) until Chinook populations recover. | Increase access to river habitat (dam removal) throughout Cascadia on Chinook Salmon producing systems that are expected to be resilient to climate change (and have access to cold water refugia). | |
| | I will avoid walking beaches where/when forage fish spawn | County should protect and increase Chinook forage fish (Sand Lance/ Herring) habitat and abundance by implementing at least three projects a year in priority areas of known habitats. | Legislate a permanent ban on new Atlantic Salmon net pens in Washington immediately, phase out existing pens by 2025, and work Canada to phase out in BC by 2025 | |
| Decrease Juvenile Chinook Mortality in the Salish Sea | I will not hard armor my shoreline property | County should map and codify known sensitive and core habitats (eelgrass, kelp, spawning beaches) for marine species in the Marine Stewardship Area to use for boater education and protection efforts by April 15, 2018. | Support regional and Cascadia level partnerships to restore multiple Chinook Salmon populations in a diversity of high priority watersheds to maximize fish availability to SRKW along the PNW Coast (buffer against localized impacts). | |
| | I will support limits on shoreline development (in water and riparian) | Local NGO's should restore forage fish and salmon rearing habitat on private lands striving for a collective mile per year. | Assert stronger Salmon rights to water and Orca rights to Salmon at State and Federal management forums. | |
| Increase Salmon Prey (Sand Lance/Herring) | I will contact State and Federal legislators to encourage them to ban Atlantic salmon net pens from the Salish Sea | County should encourage Department of Ecology to permanently ban Atlantic salmon net pens to reduce pollution, disease, and competition risks and encourage others to follow suite in 2018 | Increase understanding of how ocean food supply, temperatures, noise or other stressors may be impacting Chinook Salmon survival and growth rates. | |
| | I will hold the County responsible for protecting our marine habitats - eelgrass, kelp beds, etc. from further development | County should review and adapt recently adopted regulations to support stronger shoreline habitat protection measures (and a funding mechanism to legally defend land use decisions that protect the marine resources) starting in 2020. | Support State or Federal efforts to provide supplemental feeding strategies for SRKW during low Chinook years if they can legal do so. | |
| Create local funding mechanism for Chinook and Forage Fish Recovery to increase the pace and scale of activities. | I will support regional efforts to improve Chinook habitat (remove dams, restore floodplains, maintain clean water) | Local NGO's should collaborate with restaurants to promote "Give them a Break" campaign to stop Chinook salmon sale to protect SRKW, and launch by May 1, 2018. | | |
| | | Local NGO's should work with local and regional Fishing Derby's to alter the "prize" category away from the largest fish, and stop Chinook harvest for prize. | | |
| | | County should develop a local funding mechanism to support implementation of projects that directly improve habitats and conditions for salmon, their prey and supporting marine habitat. | | |