



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

Thursday, January 3, 2019

8:30 AM-10:30 AM

CAG Meeting 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Call in number: 1 (360) 370-0599.

The Grange

152 First St N, Friday Harbor

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
8:35 AM	Approval of Minutes <i>All</i> Approval for both September and October MRC meeting minutes
8:40 AM	MRC House Keeping <i>Frances</i> MRC staff support Reporting requirements Member recruitment MRC retreat for workplan review and 2019/20 grant cycle discussion MRC quarterly reports to Council proposal
9:10 AM	Project status' at end of 2018 :
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Southern Resident Killer Whales <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Whale Flag: Frances Robertson (10 min) b) SRKW Community workshop: Frances Robertson (5 mins) c) Task Force: Kendra Smith/Jamie Stephens (10 min) 2) Plastic Free Salish Sea: Karin Roemers-Kleven (10 min) 3) MSA Plan Review & subcommittee formation: Frances Robertson (10 min)
10:00 AM	NW Straits Commission update – <i>Christina Koons</i> Letter to Legislators to support MRCs – <i>Frances Robertson</i>
10:20 AM	Citizen input or Any Other Business
10:30 AM	Adjourn meeting
10:30 AM	Convene CAG meeting: Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair
	Updates on Salmon Recovery: Byron Rot – see attached updated salmon recovery workplan, updated December 20
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

January 3, 2019

MRC & CAG Meeting Minutes

Committee Members in Attendance: Carl Davis, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Phil Green, Christina Koons (on the phone), Lovel Pratt, Karen Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Kendra Smith, Terry Turner

Non-Committee Members: Cathleen Burns, Laura Ferguson, Tina Whitman

Ex-officio and County support staff: Frances Robertson, Byron Rot, Marta Green, Jamie Stephens

Committee members not present: Jeff Friedman, Patti Gobin, Ivan Reiff

8:34 Convene Meeting *Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair*

8:35 MOTION: Approval of Minutes for September and October

Megan moves to approve, Phil seconds, all in favor.

- Lovel, Jeff, and Terry abstain from voting on October minutes (they were absent)

8:37 No public comment. Introduce Cathleen Burns, prospective MRC member.

8:38 MRC House Keeping *Frances Robertson*

- Details on funding from NW Straits Commission

- Retreat dates: In February, everyone respond to doodle poll regarding scheduling

ACTION ITEM: Convene the membership recruitment subcommittee to fill open spots and those that will be vacated soon – Christina, Karin, Megan, and Jamie Stephens

- Reporting Requirements: Quarter 1 report will be submitted in the next 10 days.

ACTION ITEM: Everyone submit volunteer hours to Frances, Karin will send information on Plastic-free Salish Sea

9:10 Project status' at the end of 2018:

1) Southern Resident Killer Whales

a) Whale Flag *Frances Robertson*

b) SRKW Community workshop *Frances Robertson*

Success! 60+ participants, Frances will distribute report. Discussion about how to bring diversity in attendance with representation from more groups (like fishers).

ACTION ITEM: Make this a topic for the retreat

ACTION ITEM: Use the workshop report to help dispel misinformation

ACTION ITEM: Seek out a commercial fishing representative member on the MRC

ACTION ITEM: Frances will send out doodle poll one more time regarding details for the Boat Show, who's going, etc. Hope to involve some Soundwatch volunteers.

c) Task Force *Kendra Smith*

The report and budget are out, Byron sent summary Spreadsheet of governor's proposal. Ongoing discussions to ensure adequate resources for West side management and South SJ hydrophone. The latter is included in Recommendation #22 'implementation strategies'. If funded the County will contract out hydrophone installation. If approved installation is likely in April. Ballpark cost estimate is \$93K.

Puget Sound Partnership has excess funds due to budget underspend, could be used to fund a hydrophone for year 1.

ACTION ITEM: Put in request to PS Partnership, Laura Ferguson will send guidelines

Question from Jamie Stephens: will MRC be supporting/sending this letter?

NW straits requests that each MRC send a letter to State Legislator regarding funding for the Initiative.

ACTION ITEM/MOTION: Lovel moves to request that the SJC Council send a letter to the Legislator regarding support for MRC's, Megan seconds, all in favor. Motion passes.

2) Plastic Free Salish Sea *Karin Roemers-Kleven*

ACTION ITEM: Look into possibility of showing new informational video on ferries

ACTION ITEM: Kendra & Karin will discuss dates for lodging tax grant timeline

3) MSA Plan Review & subcommittee formation *Frances Robertson*

ACTION ITEM: Need a subcommittee to review issues with the MSA. Megan, Lovel, Phil, Terry, Christina, Marta, and Kendra volunteer. These volunteers will aim to set up a meeting prior to the Retreat. Goal is to 'reset' (not re-write), identify the scope.

10:10 AM NW Straits Commission Update *Christina Koons*

- Letter to Legislators to support MRCs *Frances Robertson* – already discussed.

- The Mycoast app, shows beaches which are public and ready to start monitoring.

ACTION ITEM: Send beaches desired on the app's drop-down menu list to Frances.

10:15 AM Citizen input and other business

ACTION ITEM: Marta will present to the MRC results of analysis estimating expected economic effects from 2 types of oil spills that could potentially affect the region.

10:34AM MOTION: Lovel moves to adjourn MRC and convene CAG, Phil seconds. Adjourn.

10:34AM Convene CAG meeting *Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair*

- Byron will be in a new role at County as Project Manager with the Environmental Resources Division, he will still be involved in some technical aspects but a new hire will be responsible for running the Lead Entity salmon recovery grant programs.

Updates on Salmon Recovery *Byron Rot*

– see attached updated salmon recovery workplan, updated 12/20/18

ACTION ITEM: Byron and Kendra will draft a letter from County Council to the Legislature advocating higher level of funding. The CAG felt a letter from the Council will carry more weight.

This can be a recommendation in the report to the Council this month, the draft letter will be attached.

MOTION: Lovel moves to draft letter for consideration by the SJC Council, Phil seconds, all in favor.

ACTION ITEM: CAG will also draft its own letter to be submitted to the Legislature, Byron and Karin will review. Lovel moves to do so, Megan seconds, all in favor.

- Byron proposes that we host an expert panel on Chinook in the San Juans, include Greg Taylor to speak about Frasier River Chinook. If so, it should be a public venue and possibly also available remotely.

11:11 AM MOTION: Phil moves to adjourn CAG meeting, Karin seconds. Meeting adjourned.



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

Thursday, March 7, 2019

8:30 AM-10:30 AM

CAG Meeting 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Call in number: 1 (360) 370-0599.

The Grange

152 First St N, Friday Harbor

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
8:35 AM	Introduction to our WDFW rep <i>Marcus Reeves</i>
8:45 AM	Status of Pinto Abalone in Washington, <i>Hank Carson WDFW</i>
9:30 AM	Presentation of Workplan <i>Frances Robertson</i>
9:45 AM	Project updates, Retreat Review & 2019/20 project ideas
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern Resident Killer Whales <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Whale Flag b) Outreach and education Plastic Free Salish Sea: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking Trash event Website? MSA Plan Review: <i>Megan Dethier/Lovel Pratt/Terry Turner</i> NTA Oil reports dissemination: <i>Marta Green</i> 2019/20 project ideas for grant application
10:15 AM	NW Straits Commission update – <i>Frances Robertson</i> Letter to Legislators to support MRCs – <i>Frances Robertson</i>
10:20 AM	Citizen input or Any Other Business
10:30 AM	Adjourn meeting
10:30 AM	Convene CAG meeting: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
	Updates on Salmon Recovery: Progress of proposals Updates on local salmon recovery projects Salmon Recovery Council updates
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

Committee Members in Attendance: Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Ivan Reiff, Phil Green, Carl Davis, , Megan Dethier, Lovel Pratt, Terry Turner

Non-Committee Members: Hank Carson (WDFW), Josh Bouma, Laura Ferguson, Whit Dunham, Marcus Reaves

Ex-officio and County support staff: Frances Robertson, Marta Green

Committee members not present: Jeff Friedman, Patti Gobin, Christina Koons, Kendra Smith

8:39 AM Convene Meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair

8:39 AM Introductions, including new WDFW representative Marcus Reeves

8:43 AM Status of Pinto Abalone in Washington

Hank Carson, WDFW

Hank was presented, along with Josh Bouma from PSRF, seeking public input on a proposed State listing of 'endangered' for the pinto abalone. Hank's in-depth presentation included history of the recreational & sport fisheries, current population status, recovery efforts, and the status review process closing at the end of March 2019. A report and instructions for public comment are available at wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/pinto_abalone.

Josh Bouma reviewed the past decade of abalone recovery work: hatchery at the Kenneth Chew Shellfish Center near Bremerton, recruitment sites in Skagit and San Juan Counties. Idea for growth: satellite 'grow-out' operation at Friday Harbor Labs.

Discussion:

- These efforts have been partly funded by the State, some money from Skagit MRC
- For fundraising, contact Jodie Toft at PSRF, facility tours are also possible
- This is a powerful local issue because of abalone habitat largely within San Juan County

9:38 AM MOTION: Carl moves the MRC recommend that the Council support the State listing of the pinto abalone as endangered. Laura Jo seconds, All in favor.

[FCR crafted and sent a letter to Council requesting their support, should they support this, a letter will be prepared on their behalf].

Question: Would the SJI Community Foundation provide financial support for an abalone grow-out facility at FHL, can the MRC recommend this or does it need to go through the Council? ACTION ITEM: Frankie will look into it

ACTION ITEM: include a short segment on abalone in next month's agenda *[added]*

ACTION ITEM: Frankie contact Skagit MRC lead staff, ask about funding abalone work *[FCR contacted Skagit and will report back at the April meeting]*

9:47 AM Presentation of Workplan

Frances Robertson

Workplan outline distributed, it shows committee members in subgroups.

Corrections to Workplan:

- #8 needs to move forward in schedule because the grant ends in May
- Add Carl to pinto abalone/shellfish group, add Lovel to SRKW group, add Terry and Jeff to forage fish recovery surveys
- Bottom section shows what MRC or CAG will do as lead entity. Tentative field trip dates for Weds/Thurs or Thurs/Fri in the first week of May. TAG scoring in July.

ACTION ITEM: include logistics for May site visits on agenda for next meeting

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will finalize and distribute the Workplan

[FCR finalized and distributed the workplan to MRC]

10:04 AM Project Updates, Retreat Review & 2019/20 Project Ideas

- Southern Resident Killer Whales
- a) Whale Flag –more flags to give out before June. Taylor from Soundwatch is the lead for Anacortes boat show, May 16-19. Frankie will send out interim report soon
- b) Outreach and education – beginning dockside talks in June (orca awareness month)

ACTION ITEM: schedule vessel noise subcommittee meeting, Laura Jo wants to help.

- We need an MRC marketing plan, outreach to the community. It's in the Workplan as MRC promotion. ACTION ITEM: Marketing/promotion committee – Karin, Jeff, Christina

[Subcommittee meeting is being scheduled for last week of March]

- Plastic Free Salish Sea: *Karin Roemers-Kleven*
- Talking Trash event - April 25th at Brickworks. Participants can go from one speaker to next, four speakers. The event will be a few hours, it will be streamed to other islands
- Website (and fb page) dedicated to Plastic-free Salish Sea, Frankie is working on it –now we're part of the MRC website but this project is growing to have its own following.
- The Great Island Clean-up on April 20th, gathering afterward to create art. Mark is handling the one on Lopez, competition between islands in weights of collected trash. MRC please get involved with beach clean ups on your respective islands. We should be helping to lead with these beach clean up events!!

- MSA Plan Review: *Megan Dethier/Lovel Pratt/Terry Turner*

We've been addressing what work has been done and by whom. Marta has gone through and so did Megan, Tina is going through as well. Working toward a conclusion about who could come to a Marine Managers workshop to report.

Note: People populating the new document should track changes

ACTION ITEM: after the subcommittee meets again, include discussion of this assessment on the MRC meeting agenda

10:27am NTA Oil reports dissemination

Marta Green

- The oil spill consequence assessment to SJC and emergency response towing vessel (rescue tug) cost evaluation has been completed. A summary factsheet was distributed that includes the economic consequence numbers and a figure showing a model of the trajectory of oiling. This is a cost/benefit model that conservatively estimates economic damages to warrant the establishment and maintenance of an Emergency Response Towing Vessel (ERTV) stationed in the San Juan Islands.
- House Bill 1578 had language that enabled Ecology to conduct a rulemaking that would require vessels calling on WA ports to fund an ERTV stationed in the San Juan Islands. This language was stripped from the Bill just before the House floor vote (update provided by Lovel Pratt). Thus we need to make a better case.
- Needed now: ideas on venues/audiences/opportunities for broader communication

10:43 AM NW Straits Commission update

Frances Robertson

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will email the update *[FCR did this]*

10:43 AM Citizen Input or any other business

Terry (as a citizen): there's a recurring oil slick on Orcas ferry landing, goes directly into catch basin, need to ensure a functioning catch basin in that location

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will address this issue with Public Works *[FCR raised this concern with ERD staff]*

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will send around details and dates for IOSA, call for volunteers *[IOSA public meeting details shared by MRC mailing list]*

10:46 AM Phil moves to Adjourn meeting, Carl seconds. All in favor

10:46 AM Convene CAG Meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair

Progress of proposals Updates on local salmon recovery projects

This group approved timeline in January, LOL were solicited, TAG reviewed 5 projects:

Eelgrass restoration (SJI Conservation district), oyster breakwaters (KWIAHT), Crescent Beach restoration (SJ County), Griffin Bay protection (FoSJ), and Salmon Point restoration (FoSJ).

MRC will be involved again for site visits and expected to attend presentations (first week of May), encouraged to attend site visits. Proposals will be distributed to this committee prior to site visits in May

Salmon Recovery Council update:

Chapter update is on Byron's work plan, Terry and Karin are involved, they have yet to meet, Sam will be in charge. There is a Salmon Recovery conference April 8-9th, in Tacoma

NW Straits Partnership updates:

- Seeking a new executive director, prospective replacement has applied. The Governor will appoint this position. MRC can express support to the Governor's office.
- Puget Sound Day on the Hill will be May 14-16, that's when a coalition goes to DC seek funding to protect Puget Sound. Let Laura know if you want to go, if not you can sign a letter of support. Jamie will be attending. Attendees pay their own expenses. Topics of advocacy are being worked on. Members of NW Straits commission will attend (Lucas)
- Lastly: the Puget Sound ecosystem monitoring program is looking for steering committee members. This is a group that convenes groups to collect data from local monitoring efforts around the region. There is an application process, commitment to an all-day meeting in Tacoma area once every 2 months (maybe Olympia, Seattle, Edmonds)

11:04 AM Terry moves to Adjourn CAG meeting, Carl seconds



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

Thursday, April 4, 2019

8:30 AM-10:30 AM

CAG Meeting 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Call in number: 1 (360) 370-0599 Conference ID: 285694

The Grange

152 First St N, Friday Harbor

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
8:35 AM	Citizen input
8:45 AM	Introduction to our new Salmon Recovery Coordinator Sam Whitridge
8:55 AM	IOSA updates <i>Brendan Cowan, Jen Olson</i>
9:30 AM	MRC business Quarter 2 report: Please send Frances your volunteer hours! <i>FCR will email to confirm the projects being submitted for the grant based on to-day's discussions.</i> MRC Marketing and Promotion
9:30 AM	Project updates & 2019/20 grant project ideas
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern Resident Killer Whales <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Whale Flag b) Outreach and education c) North of Falcon public meeting summary – <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i> Plastic Free Salish Sea: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking Trash event Great Island Clean Up MSA Plan Review: <i>Lovel Pratt/Terry Turner</i> NTA Oil reports: dissemination: <i>Marta Green</i> Proposed letter for Council regarding Ecology's oil spill contingency plan rulemaking process – <i>Lovel Pratt</i> Pinto Abalone: <i>Carl Davis</i>
10:20 AM	NW Straits Commission update – <i>Christina Koon</i>
10:30 AM	Adjourn meeting
10:30 AM	Convene CAG meeting: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
	Updates on Salmon Recovery: May SFRBD proposals and field trips Salmon Recovery Council updates
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

Committee Members in Attendance: Carl Davis, Jeff Dyer, Phil Green, Christina Koons (on the phone), Lovel Pratt, Ivan Reiff, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Kendra Smith (on the phone),

Non-Committee Members: Brendan Cowan, Laura Ferguson (on the phone), Brendan Flynn from Lopez (guest), Jen Olson, Giles + FHL class (12 students), Marcus Reaves (on the phone),

Ex-officio and County support staff: Frances Robertson (on the phone), Marta Green, Sam Whitridge (on the phone)

Committee members not present: Megan Dethier, Jeff Friedman, Patti Gobin, Terry Turner

8:35 AM Convene Meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair

Phil moves to approve the minutes from last meeting, Karin seconds, all in favor.

8:37 AM Introduction to our new Salmon Recovery Coordinator Sam Whitridge

Sam started last week, working remotely, will be on Orcas full-time by mid-June.

Background: watershed restoration in southern Oregon for the past decade.

Marcus Reaves introduces himself, new habitat biologist, based in La Conner

8:41 AM no citizen Input (no citizens present)

8:41 AM IOSA updates

Brendan Cowan, Jen Olson

Brendan Cowan: County emergency management director, get islands ready for out-of-the-ordinary events including oil spills. Jen Olson: whale museum marine mammal stranding network, experience with emergency response to wildlife issues, IOSA volunteer since 2014.

IOSA is a group of volunteers ready to respond to marine oil spills, first on the scene for any complaint of sheen or sign of oil. Last year IOSA BOD put a pause on operations, now trying to reinvigorate IOSA. Implementing structure with accountability - 'incident command system'. Presented to County Council Dec 10, 2018, first met on Jan 19, 2019, now meeting monthly. Accomplishments: we've set up trainings, scheduled public outreach meetings, hazardous materials training in May here and on Orcas. By October primary response contractor (prc) status with Dept of Ecology, Initiate hiring for 2 staff members by November -99.9% of IOSA's hundreds of responses over past 30 years are small but add up to tens of 1000's of gallons. Local response is the core of what IOSA does and it's important -the key to IOSA's long-term sustainability is multi-tiered approach, local and regional - the most critical thing IOSA is going to do in a big spill is Protect wildlife and deploy booms, plug into larger response (know where equipment is, who's available, etc.) Historically IOSA funding has come from the industry. Need funding from local government as well. There's a vision for IOSA to be a professionally equipped and managed, budget by 2020 based on donations, local SJC government, and industry.

JEN: wildlife is important here, 200+ spp. of birds and mammals. Wildlife ops are logistically challenged and highly regulated. Now IOSA isn't equipped for permitting for all types of

wildlife rehab but do have extensive volunteer network. Potential partnership with Focus Wildlife based in Anacortes, an international response facility with many resources. We have the staff to command, critical knowledge and they can provide training and oversight of ops.

Discussion:

Q: who's responding now? If there were an incident now that IOSA responded to in the past?

Brendan: now resources are further away. Ecology or Coast Guard would need to bring in a contractor to set up booms, coming from the mainland within 4-5 hours instead of 1-2. This isn't about the super-tanker, this is about local small boater. Now there's no local response

Q: does IOSA take any advocacy or prevention?

Brendan: can promote good practices around marinas, refueling. IOSA is a response org, not overlapping with other missions. Want to keep relationships with refineries/shipping.

Q: what's the point of meetings – to get more volunteers?

A: yes – there are different levels of volunteers: Initial response team need to be physically fit, good boat operators, committed to training. Then others who commit to an annual 8 hour training, help with logistics, shoreline training, participate in exercises twice a year. Also people who aren't trained at all but willing to support, feed & house & drive volunteers around. Need to rejuvenate volunteer core and keep database of potential volunteers.

Q: what would be response time to a spill from a large tanker?

A: Depends where it's coming from. Variables that impact the outcome of a spill include response time, but also weather, currents, etc. Prevention is definitely the foundation.

Q: Is there an expectation of County funding for an independent nonprofit?

Brendan: IOSA is a 501c4. Brendan has Council's support to work on this as part of job but also volunteering his own time. County leadership has decided to support this separate org during this rebuilding phase. In the long term, more independence with county involvement.

Kendra: we have the derelict vessel program under solid waste, that has some funding but the county general fund pays a lot to deal with sinking boats.

Brendan: we're trying to keep IOSA to response, the prevention piece still needs work. Last summer DNR paid to haul away the derelict boat on Lopez, Mark Herrenkohl helped.

Q: Are there lessons about wildlife response learned from the BP oil spill?

Jen: from logistics side the entity responsible will pay for most response. Also experience with Exxon-Valdez. They did some research, capture studies, learned impacts on mammals.

But those lessons would be applied differently here because we have different resources

Brendan: can't apply those lessons unilaterally because weather, water temperature, distance to land, can all be different in Salish Sea when compared with those situations

Marta: In a recent study about impacts for our County, we extrapolated data from 7 other major spills. That study resulted in a wide range of economic impacts.

A public presentation about those results will be here at the Grange, May 8th 11am-1pm

Brendan: we'll know by May about some funding, we'd like to check back in with MRC in October/November to better inform about how we can support each other

Some discussion of Emergency Response Tug Vessel research, availability and location.

- Quarter 2 report: Report volunteer hours (quarterly), include time at MRC meetings.
- MRC Marketing and Promotion: need a meeting to discuss this. Frances is working on the website. Please like/share the MRC page on facebook. We have a plastic-free salish sea website. Need logs, pictures, stories – Earth day will be an opportunity.

9:42 AM Project updates & 2019/2020 grant project ideas

- Southern Resident Killer Whales

a) Whale Flag – presented to the Whale Watch operators, sold 44 flags. The interim report is still in process, due to Marine mammal commission mid-May.

b) Outreach and education: Anacortes Boat Show May 16-19, Taylor Shedd from Soundwatch will lead but need volunteers. Dock talks in June can happen on every island, this is education about “be whale wise”, whale warning flags, and new regulations. Youth conservation core may help. We’ll have a communications intern for the summer

c) North of Falcon public meeting summary

Karin Roemers-Kleven

Giles, Cindy Hansen, and have attended as well as WDFW meetings advocating for whales. We’re asking for salmon. Karin as a story-teller/naturalist, Cindy from Orca network provided data. Giles, as a scientist, and also representing Friends of the San Juans, provided studies describing the importance of whales to the ecosystem. Made some productive connections with fishermen.

North of Falcon involves Canada/Alaska/WA, tribal leaders and other entities looking at numbers of fish returned in 2018, which should inform which fish are available. Chinook salmon and some chum runs are seriously depleted. Coho and sockeye seem ok. Managers are mostly looking at returning numbers, not considering climate change.

Overall positive response from WDFW and productive meeting. Brendan Flynn is part of the task force as a fisherman.

Q: could we have a transcript of the three viewpoints from your talking points at these meetings, the story teller, the orca network and the scientist.

ACTION ITEM: Karin will share these with the MRC

9:52 – lose phone audio

- Plastic Free Salish Sea

Karin Roemers-Kleven

- Talking Trash event, April 25 at Brickworks 5-7pm. 3 speakers.

- Great Island Clean Up, the weekend before on Saturday 20th.

The SJ museum of art is doing an exhibit this summer about whales called “deep dive”, June 15-September 15. A symposium in the theater next door on July 13, Jean Michel Cousteau and Alexandra Morton slated to be speakers, maybe Ernest Brooks (artist & conservationist)

Christina : the Navy has released its draft Environmental Impact statement for review, comments being accepted until May 28. More growler training would mean more noise. The vessel working group will meet to discuss this soon - Rec 25, coordinate with the Navy in 2019 to reduce noise, is a year 2 recommendation. Frankie will be part of that group.

ACTION ITEM for Kendra: follow up with Jamie to see if this issue is already on to-do list, if not let him know the MRC is in favor of less growler training

Q: is there evidence that growlers affect marine mammals?

Laura: yes, there were studies that came out of the SRKW workshop , Rob Williams. The gist is that sound from air can be perceived in the depths of water, in frequencies they can hear, but not yet clear what the impact is on behavior.

ACTION ITEM: Laura will send these studies to Frankie to distribute

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will look at how they assess the impacts of airplanes on cetaceans, look at Navy document with eye toward the science.

MOTION: Lovel moves staff will work with council, Phil seconds on comments on the DEIS to include impacts to the marine environment and specifically to SRKW

MOTION: Jeff moves we recommend to County Council to request that Navy extend the comment period for the draft EIS (*get official title*) Phil seconds. All in favor. *Note this was done*

- NTA Oil reports: dissemination

Marta Green

The report has been disseminated to political reps, some of task force members, sent fact sheet and link to full reports to all other MRC and LIO coordinators.

next plan: scheduled a meeting here on May 8th 11am-1pm, there should be a news release.

There will also be a webinar date TBD. The report is on the MRC website, the fact sheet isn't.

ACTION ITEM: Marta will send fact sheet to Christina and to federal delegation (Cantwell)

ACTION ITEM: Christina and Lovel send Marta contacts

- Proposed letter for Council regarding Ecology's oil spill contingency plan rulemaking process

Lovel Pratt

Requesting that the council send a letter to Ecology asking that the update to the oil spill contingency plan incorporate the findings and recommendations from the 2015 report, [San Juan County Oil Spill Response Capacity Evaluation](#). Include a cc list that would include government reps and committee chairs.

MOTION: request that the council submit the letter as drafted with additional cc list. to Dept. of Ecology, Carl seconds. All in favor

ACTION ITEM: Lovel will send it to Frances with the cc list. The letter is already drafted, will go from staff to council *This was done*.

10:20 AM NW Straits Commission update

Christina Koon

Attended the retreat in March. Saw all the MRC reps, NW straits foundation, PS Partnership.

External Relations committee: Some people are going to DC for Puget Sound days on the hill. Christina is attending, wants feedback from people on message she'll deliver.

Is she representing the MRC or just myself as an individual? This came up earlier for Karin.

The question of whether members can represent the MRC, Kendra will clarify boundaries with Sasha. Need to make sure we're working within the bounds of the Commission, which can provide training to MRC members about conduct and communication.

Laura: if you're going to Puget Sound on the Hill please register with the PS Partnership

10:57 AM Lovel moves to Adjourn, Carl seconds, adjourned.

10:57 AM Convene CAG meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven

Updates on Salmon Recovery:

- May SFRBD proposals and field trips

Sam: grant round is moving forward, pre applications due April 10th, Sam is working with 5 project sponsors & will have proposals out to CAG and TAG the next day.

May 1st & 2nd field trips, Sam will have itinerary finalized by next week. Conceptual overview is to start morning of May 1st at Islanders bank meeting room, work through 5 presentations, then get in vans and visit sites on SJI.

May 2nd is day 2: go out in county boats, visit two sites on Lopez and one on Orcas

These are different sites than what the committee visited last year.

No MRC meeting in May.

ACTION ITEM: Sam will send out rating sheets prior to site visits

Jeff: I won't be able to attend trips, can I visit on my own and still rate?

Sam: we'll touch base offline to arrange visits

11:01 AM Karin moves to Adjourn CAG meeting, Laura Jo seconds. Adjourned



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

Thursday, June 6, 2019

8:30 AM-10:30 AM

CAG Meeting 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Call in number: 1 (360) 370-0599 Conference ID: 285694

The Grange

152 First St N, Friday Harbor

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
8:35 AM	Citizen input
8:40 AM	Acceptance of April meeting minutes
8:45 AM	Derelict gear removal in San Juan County 2019 <i>Joan Drinkwin, Natural Resources Consultants</i>
9:30 AM	MRC business Introduce new MRC members 2019/20 Grant application <i>Summary of proposed projects and funding allocations</i>
9:40 AM	Project updates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Southern Resident Killer Whales<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Orca Action month activities – movie screenings & Dockside outreachPlastic Free Salish Sea: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">Request for letter of support SWAC's proposal to request Council remove the exemption for thicker plastic bags in San Juan County.NTA Oil reports - discussions with Sen Cantwell's staff - <i>Marta Green</i>
10:00 AM	SRKW local concerns Increasing availability of salmon for SRKW –Pacific Salmon Council meetings Navy EIS for West Coast Training Range Area Local Citizens Initiative regarding SRKW
10:25 AM	NW Straits Commission update – <i>Christina Koons</i>
10:30 AM	Adjourn meeting
10:30 AM	Convene CAG meeting: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
	2019 SRFB Grant Round Update - Project Cost Increase Requests
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

June 6, 2019

MRC & CAG Meeting Minutes

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, Jeff Dyer, Jeff Friedman, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, , Ivan Reiff, Karin Roemers- Kleven, Laura Jo Severson (on the phone), Kendra Smith

Non-Committee Members: Kelly Balcomb-Bartok, Laura Ferguson, Sarah McCullagh, Emily Schaller, Mark Schmid, Monica Shoemaker, Marcus Reaves (on the phone)

Ex-officio and County support staff: Frances Robertson, Marta Green, Sam Whitridge (on the phone)

Committee members not present: Megan Dethier, Patti Gobin, Terry Turner, Carl Davis, Kailey Genther

8:31 AM Convene Meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair

8:32 AM Citizen Input

Kelly Balcomb-Bartok: *Pacific Whale Association Communications Director*. consider ramifications for community, potential harm to businesses. Whale watchers are following regulations

Sarah McCullugh: *Lead naturalist and captain on SJ Safaris, background in wildlife management*. Second time speaking in front of MRC. A 650 yd approach limit not supported by science, Holt acoustics study shows that speed is more important than distance.

Emily Schaller: *San Juan Safaris & San Juan Outfitters, involved in whale watch community*. The ballot initiative is a waste of resources/time on an issue that has already been examined through the task force process. We are models of good behavior for private boaters, lead to conservation efforts and contribute to science by reporting observations on behavior.

8:43 AM Acceptance of April meeting minutes

ACTION ITEM: Delay approval of minutes until next meeting (until edits are incorporated)

8:44 AM Derelict Gear Removal in San Juan County

Monica Shoemaker

Presenting for Joan Drinkwin from Natural Resources Consultants (NRC). DNR has an Aquatic Restoration Program (bulkhead removal, removing marine debris like derelict floats etc.). Launched "MyCoast" app in 2018. Used to record debris observed on shorelines and report. Lost fishing gear (abandoned/ghost) is a global problem. Nets suspend in water column, drape on rocky reefs, continue to catch animals. In 2001 the NW straits initiative identified this as a priority, developed protocols/guidelines for removal. Since 2016 nearly 5,785 nets removed in shallow water habitats. Current loss of fishing nets is lower, 10-20 nets annually. In San Juan County 2,224 nets removed, almost 500K animals saved. Deep water nets: can't be accessed by most divers. Some experiments using ROV's to remove nets, somewhat successful but expensive. Introducing a new deep-water derelict net removal project, partnership with NRC and the Army 569th engineer Dive detachment out of Virginia, July 8-28 2019. Their program provides support and diving, WA DNR is funding, pick up & remove nets. Local vessel hired, the Sea Horse with onboard decompression chamber. Divers staying in FH. Focus on cluster of nets on west side of San Juan island on nets 130-160' deep. Working from south to north. All permits are in place. NRC will record what's removed.

Project will follow whale wise protocols, engines will be shut down while divers are down or if whales are present. Joan & Monica will present at Whale Museum series June 25th.

Search 'DNR Deepwater Nets' for links to more information

QUESTIONS:

Q: can you highlight process/outline/resource with regard to finding derelict creosote gear?

ACTION ITEM: Frankie follow up with Monica about information to put on MRC website

Q: will there be notice to shoreline property owners (Eagle Cove-Hannah Heights)?

A: yes, there will be media, local newspaper, presentations

ACTION ITEM: post about this event on MRC FB page, Monica to send outreach materials

9:30 AM MRC business **check with Karin for complete list of new members*

Introduce new MRC members: Cathleen Burns and Kailey Gunther,

Megan Dethier, Phil Green and Laura Jo Severson all renewed for another term.

- 2019/20 Grant application due, Frankie reports continuing on main 3 projects:

1. Marine stewardship area plan, review/revision, applied for intern through NW Straits

2. Plastic Free Salish Sea

3. Outreach/education around SRKW particularly Be Whale Wise and boater education.

seeking resources to support attendance at the MRC conference and for Salish Sea

Conference in Vancouver. There has been a call out for panel session topics

ACTION ITEM: Lovell or **Laurel** will email Karin/Frankie regarding panel topics

Commented [FR1]: ??

9:40 AM Project updates

• Southern Resident Killer Whales

Orca Action month activities – movie screenings & dockside outreach

June is Orca Action month, showing Artifishal. Calendar of Dockside Outreach efforts.

ACTION ITEM: Sarah will connect with Frankie to provide naturalists to help educate Other mailing lists: beachwatchers, Erin Corra, Lovell, Jeff Friedman (to naturalists), FHL students.

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will send google calendar link to MRC, everyone pick dates. Kendra suggests putting stars on days with most traffic/need (i.e. yacht rendezvous)

ACTION ITEM: check with Laura Jo Severson regarding yacht rendezvous times. last weekend of June is a big boat activity time (Power Squadron, etc.) at FH marina

- signs in ferry terminal office are old Puget Sound Partnership sign with old regulations

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will get Hillary to produce new sign, distribute

Whale Wise website is being revised, will relaunch soon then new materials put out. New reg from Canada: 400m from all southern resident killer whales in critical habitat unless special exemption for PWWA boats that will allow 200m from other killer whales. June 1-October 31st "When in doubt, stay 400 yds out". But the key is to slow down, then keep your distance.

Q: are other MRC's helping with flags and Be Whale Wise?

A: Whatcom is putting in a grant to buy flags. Jefferson County had flags didn't distribute

Q: if no time to promote the flag, could we ask them to post on their websites?

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will contact other MRC's/PS partnership to post Be Whale Wise flag on their websites with link to us. New website will summarize regulations with flag up front

- Plastic Free Salish Sea

Karin Roemers-Kleven

Request for letter of support for SWAC's proposal to request Council remove the exemption for thicker plastic bags in San Juan County. The County approved the ban of plastic bags in 2016, thicker plastic bags now being used by local stores. Want to redefine reusable bag as "made of cloth/washable fabric, has handles suitable for multiple uses"

Christina moves to approve proposed outreach to the County Council regarding the new definition for reusable bags and remove the loophole allowing use of thicker plastic bags. Jeff D. seconds, all in favor, none opposed, MOTION PASSES

- NTA Oil reports – discussions with Sen Cantwell's staff

Marta Green

Updates on Cantwell's staff meeting and update near-term action task #5 – broader communications. We advertised that we were having a community meeting & webinar. We need to keep communicating message that this is a worthwhile investment.

Question: How can we engage people more and get people's attention?

A: Economic development commission luncheon was at the same time as the community meeting. Maybe we should go to their meeting. We may need to come to them.

A: there are other service clubs with regular meetings & presenters, could write an article. Webinar on the 15th was successful. Link on website, still available. It's the presentation of ERTV proposed costs and analysis of spill consequences. On Federal level need to get Coast Guard more engaged. Suggest looking at Whatcom County work with transboundary issues. The grant is running out, need to continue messaging. Should we look at other funding? Ecology wants to do a study of ERTV effectiveness in-house rather than contract it out. It will take time to develop that model, may be good in the long term but won't happen quickly

9:58 AM SKRW local concerns

- Increasing availability of salmon

Karin Roemers-Kleven

Pacific Salmon Council meeting in Portland called by NOAA. Meeting called of partners to set a stock quota that would leave salmon for the whales. Modelers there hoping to design a spatial allotment plan. Still not really resolved, no follow-up meetings until the Fall.

- Navy EIS for West Coast Training Range Area

Frankie, Christina, Lovell

This came out of the task force, to engage with Navy. Navy came to the last Vessel Working group meeting. Discussion of Sonar use 10-20 miles offshore, where SRKW are and National Marine Sanctuary. Hoh tribe wants to collaborate with MRC regarding concerns about Navy.

Christina: Northwest Training and Testing EIS, www.NWTTTEIS.com. We should engage more. There is a NAVY rep on the Island County LIO. There is a precedent for Navy involvement.

Question: if we approve the Marine Mammal Commission's letter which Christina forwarded, could Frankie or Karin submit it?

MOTION: Lovell moves to direct staff to review the comment letter from the MMC as well as the Governor's office's comment letter regarding the NWTT draft supplemental EIS/overseas

Commented [FR2]: ?

EIS and if appropriate, submit that to the SJC council with a request that they support these letters in their submittal before the end of the comment period June 12 . Ivan seconds, all in favor, none opposed. MOTION PASSES

- Local Citizens Initiative regarding SRKW – equal protection initiative.

The county doesn't take a position. Lawsuit pending. There will be a November vote, they're still in the signature-gathering process. Signatures must be from county residents

Q: has there been dialogue with the citizen group on Lopez sponsoring the initiative?

A: yes, they've been in touch with Frankie. Sorrel North is their leader.

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will share Sorrel's emails with the group

The 650 yd distance is based on what was in the 5577 bill, may be a use of Holt's model

ACTION ITEM: Frankie to send technical report which Marla Holt's memo was based on

10:37 AM NW Straits Commission Update

Christina Koons

Increase in funding for MRC's of \$32K a year, from 75 to 92 over a 2-year period. Christina is co-hosting new ad-hoc committee. Next year want to be more strategic about going to the Hill for DC. Want to formalize appointment of an alternate, someone to share the role.

10:41 AM Adjourn meeting

Lovell moves to adjourn, Phil seconds.

10:42 AM Convene CAG meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair

2019 SRFB Grant Round Update

- Project Cost Increase Requests

Sam Whitridge: in grant process, sponsors have received comments and finalizing proposals.

Final proposals due June 11. Sam will send to CAG and TAG. TAG meets June 19th to

evaluate/score/rank. June 24th scores sent to CAG, July 10th (Fire House) score proposals

and finalize ranked list. If can't attend on July 10th send in vote by proxy to Sam in advance.

Requests for cost increases for projects currently in progress. The TAG had a conference call

for technical review of the two proposals. The Sand lance proposal (amended request) was

sent back for additional information. The other from Friends of San Juans was approved on a

technical basis, now determining where funds will come from to complete that project.

MOTION: Kendra move to approve cost increase request for the Friends' proposal regardless of funding source, Jeff seconds. Lovell recuses. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passes

10:56 AM one more issue NW Straits Commission

Christina Koons

Friday June 28th meeting in Everett, does anyone want to accompany Christina? Last year we

discussed Whale Flags. This year decide on oil-spill being the issue. Marta will double-check

timing and consider presenting. County car in Anacortes may be available. If Marta can't

make it Lovell is willing to go and Marta can provide presentation.

11:01 AM Adjourn CAG meeting



SAN JUAN COUNTY

MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE & CITIZEN'S SALMON ADVISORY GROUP

Wednesday, July 10, 2019

8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Call in number: 1 (360) 370-0599 code: 285694

Friday Harbor Fire Station

60 Second Street - Friday Harbor, WA

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene CAG Meeting <i>Sam Whitridge</i>
8:35 AM	Salmon Recovery Plan scoring <i>Sam Whitridge</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing quorum: 1 minute Conflict of interest assessment: 5 minutes Scoring criteria review: 10 min Project scoring and ranking of each project by each member: 60 min
	Adjourn CAG meeting
10:15 AM	Convene MRC Meeting: <i>Frances Robertson</i>
10:15 AM	Approval of minutes (April and June)
10:20 AM	MRC Operations Update <i>Frances Robertson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC Annual Conference Grant status Annual Retreat planning
10:30 AM	NW Straits Foundation: Update <i>FC Robertson for Christina Koons</i>
10:35 AM	MRC Project updates <i>Frances Robertson</i> <i>Status review of active projects:</i> SRKW <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flag project: #flags, outreach effort, next steps Westside marine spatial planning project update (<i>Kendra Smith</i>) Plastic Free Salish Sea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upcoming beach clean ups with YCC LTAC grant application
10:55 AM	Citizen input
11:00 AM	Adjourn MRC meeting

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date	Event	Location	Time
8/1/2019	MRC Monthly Meeting	The Grange	8:30-11:00
9/5/2019	MRC Monthly Meeting	The Grange	8:30 – 11:00
10/3/2019	MRC Monthly Meeting	The Grange	8:30 – 11:00

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, Megan Dethier, Kailey Genther, Phil Green, Ivan Reiff, Laura Jo Severson, Terry Turner, Kendra Smith

Ex-officio and County support staff: Laura Ferguson, Frances Robertson, Sam Whitridge

Committee Members not in Attendance: Jeff Dyer, Jeff Freidman, Carl Davis, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, Patti Gobin/Alternate

8:35 AM Convene CAG Meeting, introductions

Sam Whitridge

8:44 AM Salmon Recovery Plan scoring

Sam Whitridge

Quick review of CAG scoring criteria. Establish that we have a quorum. Sam has some scores already (Kendra, Lovel, Phil, Ivan, Karin, Christina and Jeff D.). Megan, and Cathleen provide their scores. Laura Jo and Terry did not provide scores.

Conflict of interest assessment: Kendra has a conflict of interest on Crescent Beach project due to being a Public Works employee. Lovel has a conflict on the Salmon Point proposal due to being a FOSJ employee. Is Megan a conflict on the eelgrass project because of association with the Labs? No, no financial benefit to Labs only to a few individuals directly. CAG ranking came out with Salmon Point first, Griffin Bay & Eelgrass tied for second, Crescent Beach 4th, oyster project last.

Discussion:

Question - Kendra: it's hard to separate CAG and TAG ranks, can we combine them?

A: no, ranking for two different purposes - scientific vs. socioeconomic (ie. Stakeholders, outreach)

Q-Kendra: but projects could be reviewed across the board, more efficiently, we're disadvantaged by not getting to hear what the TAG said. The process could be more transparent

Laura F: Island County have combined TAG & CAG, but it's a separate group from MRC

Phil: but here in SJC, the MRC is mandated to be the CAG. TAG is also set as a committee

Kendra: Council would be ok with combining, streamline and reduce committee fatigue.

Phil: I got out of the TAG because I didn't have the expertise to decide about restoration projects

Megan: if people who didn't know about salmon vote on benefit to salmon, that would bother me.

Kendra: there could be a provision for that in the spreadsheet, weight scores differently from technical experts, but meeting together would allow us to hear from everyone.

Ivan: you can combine the meetings without combining the committee

Next steps: we provide a ranked list by August 15, then SRFB review, then finalized Nov. 6

Budget: we have enough to fund top three (not Crescent Beach or oyster reef). We will get return funds but uncertain timeline. Friends' project increase request may need to come from return funds

Laura F: next grant round will start sooner, pushing it up so it'll end around August of next year

Sam: we need to submit a ranked list that's as close to the allocation amount as possible, if we exceed the amount we need to list the fourth project as an alternate. OR list all four but ask projects to reduce the amount they need. Important message for the future that grant rounds are tight

Megan: if we cut 10% from all projects we could fund all four

Sam: since ranked list isn't due until August, we could go back to proposers to ask about reduced funding. If Preservation Trust and eelgrass projects reduce funding we could fund Crescent Beach

There are two options: fund top three with Crescent beach as an alternate OR go down the list and get project sponsors to reduce funding requests in a way that allows us to fund all four

MOTION: Kendra moves to ask project sponsors (preservation trust, SJ public works, and conservation district) to look at budget request and ways to reduce funding so that all four projects can be funded
Megan seconds. All in favor, none opposed

9:57 AM Adjourn CAG Meeting

9:57 AM Convene MRC Meeting

Frances Robertson

9:57 AM Approval of minutes (April and June)

Laura Jo moves to approve both, Megan seconds. All in favor, none opposed. Minutes are approved.

9:58 AM * short break *

10:06 AM MRC Operations Update

Frances Robertson

- MRC Annual Conference in Everett this year, 15-16th November. Please let Frances know if interested in attending. Also the Salish Sea conference in Vancouver next year. Phil and Cathleen willing to pay their own way, Laura Jo willing to take her boat. Frances will look into home-stays with other MRCs' members. Kendra requests attendants cover own travel/food
- Grant Status, biennial –budget amendment in the spring of next year to work on 2021-2022
- Annual Retreat Planning. Traditionally in Jan/Feb, already a quarter into budget year. This year plan to do it October 3rd instead of October MRC meeting (possibly at Labs).

10:13 AM NW Straits Foundation: Update

FC Robertson for Christina Koons

Christina presented on Marine Stewardship Area plan & review initiated this year.

Contact Maddie with information about historical kelp beds. This ties in with Samish DNR presentation next month.

Commission budget approved by consensus. There are \$ going to creating a MRC database. What about Sound IQ (integrating as links into pre-existing format)? each MRC could provide a short description and photo of various projects. Specific sites on map

Strategic plan and operations approved. Question: how much Foundation raised for the Initiative here on the Island? We have been funded for opportunity grants. Want more transparency. At minimum, if funds are collected here we want an option to specify that they'll come back here.

Do we have someone on this committee who is also on the NW Straits foundation committee? No, we have in the past and we should have a representative there again

Funded: we received 10K Innovation grant for software for management of West side (allows inclusion of spatial data and social use data), and also funded for an intern who will help with MSA plan update. Megan has a candidate in mind, will discuss at meeting on 24th

Caroline Gibson is new director of partnership for NW straits foundation

10:28 AM MRC Project Updates

Frances Robertson

Introduce Hilary Shedd, new SRKW communications intern – managing MRC social media, new season flag surveys (good response so far). Funded by NW Straits via NFWF

Hillary will be creating a storyboard to showcase history of MRC efforts to help SRKW over past 20 years or so. Plan to talk to Phil, Kari Koski, Rich Osborne for historical info (eg. Jet ski ban in 1994... then big gap until MSA plan in 2004, then another gap until 2017)

Hillary plans to do interviews with each MRC member to make 1-minute videos about what we're doing, post them on the MRC website and facebook page

We have a space at the County fair – need volunteers to help Frances. Showcase work MRC has done.

Status review of active projects

SRKW: Flag project: #flags, outreach effort, next steps:

- Interim report submitted to Marine Mammal Commission in March. More flags this year than last year, more requests coming in. One problem: Canadian DFO enforcement wanted a way to identify commercial whale watchers who have permission from DFO to allow them to approach transient killer whales to 200m instead of 400m within SRKW Critical Habitat in Southern BC. They ordered their own flags without consulting, so whale watchers here will need to fly both flags. Too late to rescind/change Be Whale Wise flags, they already have a lot of traction
- Action: Frances to discuss with Jeff F and Ivan.
- Westside marine spatial planning project update *Kendra Smith*
We're behind, delayed money from NFWF, needed stakeholders in the spring, then collecting data. Now instead we'll try to get data first
Meanwhile: 30 Army divers, barge stationed on the outside corner of Eagle Cove. They started off edge of Salmon Bank, then around point. They got 4 nets so far, plenty more down there

Plastic Free Salish Sea:

- Upcoming beach clean-ups with YCC (youth conservation corps.), late July (2 next week and 2 the following week). Kendra waiting to hear back from YCC. Stand by for requests to help
- LTAC grant application, Frances putting these in for water refill station (LTAC to the County and the town). Plan to talk to Elena Porten to join together to improve farmers' market area. Now Sunshine alley is still open to traffic during the market. IDEA: new MRC logo on water bottles to sell? Frances: we may not be allowed to do that since we receive federal funds

10:51 AM no citizen Input

10:52 AM note: new signs for Orcas landing have arrived, question on whether we still need to do 'before' and 'after' public survey. Consensus was that we do not.

- Laura Jo printed out agenda for the Deep Dive documentary this Saturday, ALSO Laura Jo sent a link to a short story about life after climate change by Paolo Bacigalupi

10:56 AM Frances moves to Adjourn MRC meeting, Phil seconds, all approved none opposed



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

Thursday, August 1st, 2019

8:30 AM-10:30 AM

CAG Meeting 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Call in number: 1 (360) 370-0599 Conference ID: 285694

The Grange

152 First St N, Friday Harbor

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
8:35 AM	Citizen input
8:40 AM	Acceptance of July meeting minutes
8:45 AM	Samish DNR Kelp monitoring research in San Juan County <i>Todd Woodard, Director of Natural Resources, Samish Indian Nation</i>
9:30 AM	NW Straits Commission update – <i>Christina Koons</i>
9:45 AM	MRC business <i>Frances Robertson</i> San Juan County Fair booth presence – call for volunteers MRC Officer elections
9:50 AM	Project updates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern Resident Killer Whales <i>Frances Robertson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Status of flag project b) Status of outreach efforts and communications efforts Plastic Free Salish Sea: <i>Frances Robertson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LTAC grant applications for water bottle refill stations Website and branding for PFSS campaign Beach clean-up with Whatcom MRC August 17th Sucia Island. Marine Stewardship Area Plan review <i>Megan Dethier</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of subcommittee meeting Next steps Intern
10:15	Any Other Business
10:30 AM	Adjourn meeting
10:30 AM	Convene CAG meeting: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
	2019 SRFB Grant Round Update - Finalize and approve ranked proposal list
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

Committee Members in Attendance: Carl Davis, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genther, Marta Green, Phil Green, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, Ivan Reiff (on the phone), Laura Jo Severson, Kendra Smith

Ex-officio and County support staff: Abigail Ames (on the phone), Krista Davis, Laura Ferguson, Frances Robertson, Sam Whitridge

Public: Mark Donahue, Marc Schmidt, Todd Woodard

8:30 AM Convene Meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven

8:31 AM Citizen Input

Mark Schmidt: encourage more drastic measures to end salmon fishing. Karin notes the comment

8:35 AM Acceptance of July meeting minutes

Phil moves to accept, Kendra seconds. All in favor, Lovel and Karin abstain. Minutes are approved.

8:40 AM Samish DNR Kelp monitoring research in San Juan County

Todd Woodard

Most of this presentation is available on Samish website as a story map,

<https://www.samishtribe.nsn.us/departments/environment>

Bull kelp bulbs and blades have been used traditionally by Samish. Friends of the San Juans did a baseline map from aerial surveys in 2004-6. By 2016 aerial photography was more developed, worked to hand-digitize kelp map for the San Juans, created a chart map.

General findings: compare acreage between 2016 and 2006, over 30% loss kelp coverage in County.

Next steps: continue ground-truthing by comparing substrate (using ROV) in sites where there was loss vs. gain. Working with NOAA and NW Straits to identify potential restoration sites.

9:15 AM Marine Debris Clean-up in Samish Traditional Territory

Todd Woodard

Creosote is a good wood preservative, also full of carcinogens. 5 years ago started working with WA DNR, Conservation Corps, Veterans' corps. Earth Corps. In 2017 started going to beaches, removing treated wood, Styrofoam, net pieces. We started a dataset to ID where there is most need. Surveys, walking beaches with GPS and cameras, that guides clean-up efforts for the following season. In 2017-8 we covered most of San Juan County. Map showing locations of most debris, mostly creosote pilings. Total amounts removed per island per year: bar graph shows weights per year per location 2017 – 160K lbs removed, 2018 – 122K removed, in 5 years over 750K lbs. removed from beaches. By next summer we'll top a million pounds just in San Juan County since 2014. Waste us taken to the Burlington transfer station, sealed land fill. The state is handling the disposal costs. The best way for citizens to identify waste ready for disposal is using the MyCoast app.

9:33 AM NW Straits Commission Update

Christina Koons

A bill, H.R. 2247: Promoting United Government Efforts To Save Our Sound Act looking for funding for restorative work

Salish Sea is equal size to Chesapeake, should get equal funding (approx. \$50 million)

ACTION ITEM: Laura Ferguson will send out a PSP letter in support of the bill to MRC and Samish DNR if people want to sign on

The MRC conference is Nov 15-16 in Everett, want to see a lot of people from San Juan County.

National Estuary Week is September 14-21st. Local: Sucia clean-up on August 17th (Saturday)

Jay Inslee came out to a project a couple weeks ago, got a lot of press

Question: at the Inslee event was there anyone from San Juan County? Could NW Straits commission folks let the MRC know when there is an event like that with an elected official?

A: yes, there are a lot of local politics and we need to work more on media and communications

Christina is now on the communications committee and the legislative committee. One idea is to be more proactive, call the governor's office and invite him to come here. target communications

Laura: add that Jeff Parsons is our political liaison, always looking to set up tours, highlight MRC's

Christina: can we do a media blitz here around this Bill, invite Maria Cantwell & Patty Murray.

Cantwell staff came to the last commission meeting. the governor has taken note of the MRC system

9:47 AM MRC business

Frances Robertson

Hillary Shedd – communications fellow, doing MRC member spotlights. She will email members to follow up regarding individual meetings. This gives us visibility in the community & on social media

ACTION ITEM: Frances will send the link to the committee member spotlight *DONE 8/2/19*

San Juan County Fair booth presence – call for volunteers. Thanks Phil, Cathleen, and Kristina. Looking for Wednesday 8/14 5-9pm slot. ACTION ITEM: Frankie to find out if there are passes for volunteers.

DONE –vendor passes available for those that have signed up.

MRC Officer elections: nominations for Chair and vice-chair. Karin willing to stand as Chair. Christina agrees to stand as vice-chair. Karin nominates Christina as NW Straits Commission. Laura Jo is willing to stand as an alternate NW Straits Commission SJ county representative

MOTION: Lovel moves to approve slate of candidates, Laura Jo seconds. All in favor, motion passes

9:50 AM Project updates

- Southern Resident Killer Whales

Frances Robertson

We're in the last 2 months of the grant, trying to close that out. Could use a press release

a) Status of flag project

Youth Conservation Corps is out doing dock talks, gave out all free flags and also sold a few

b) Status of outreach efforts and communication efforts

- Plastic Free Salish Sea (PFSS)

Frances Robertson

• LTAC grant applications for water bottle refill stations on ferries, working with Friends of San Juans and Lopez Solid Waste, also rotary clubs are supporting

• Website and branding for PFSS campaign, we've engaged a design company. Hope that other MRC's adopt that name, PFSS (Skagit & Whatcom MRC's have similar projects)

Christina: can Karin come talk about that at NW Straits commission meeting? Karin: yes

Kendra: it didn't pass legislature last go-around (issue of single-use plastics) but it will come around again this year. IF state implements something it could supercede local regulations. Solid Waste Committee meeting on August 22nd. IF we want a ban on single-use plastics that the state can't override, we need to mobilize MRC's and PFSS in Olympia to help move the needle.

Todd: WA state Marine debris action plan has a section on controlling sources of marine debris. Not formally adopted by legislature, but provided to Governor's office. Statewide effort, may be leverage

Kendra: this year I'm doing budgeting, moving some resources from Solid Waste to PFSS. Need to acknowledge that overlap. Integrating and communicating with solid waste folks for their support

- Beach clean-up with Whatcom MRC August 17th Sucia Island

- Marine Stewardship Area Plan review

Lovel Pratt

- Summary of subcommittee meeting – we met with intern, Abigail Ames, who will be updating the MSA Plan's detailed excel workbook. End goal is to have the updated MSA Plan adopted by county.

- Next Steps – Marine Manager Workshop next year, March 10-11, 2020 at FHL. Bringing in relevant marine managers. Ensuring that we address relevant updates. Identify gaps

Kendra: the existing plan/record doesn't contain maps, this time we need maps as a guiding element.

Lovel: then we need to include another spreadsheet to reference maps and update them.

September meeting will be dedicated to bringing everyone up to speed

10:15 AM Any Other Business

Kendra: Sampling of marine visitors and boaters to help identify where visitor facilities are needed, Confluence Consulting needs some assistance. Kendra will send an email. Doing outer islands (Sucia, Patos, etc.) want to hit Fisherman Bay & Friday harbor, Westsound, etc. They need people roughly 2 hours, 8:30-10:30 AM. There will be a drop box where surveys can be returned. They need a minimum sample of 200. We may try to piggy back with YCC and flag efforts. The State is also using this data to help identify where to invest, ties into broader requests, this will help us with management strategies. Please look for the email and respond if you can do it

Christina: Marta will attend next NW Straits Commission meeting on August 23rd in Sequim, she will be given 40 minutes to talk about oil spill consequences. Public is invited, please come if you can

Lovel: Whatcom County issued a Mitigated Determined of Nonsignificance (MDNS) for the Phillips 66 refinery project. The applicant, Phillips 66 didn't list Southern Resident Killer Whales under endangered species in the SEPA checklist. SRKW Task force rec #27 addressed this issue, 'look to see how state permitting processes can be required to address impacts to SRKW'. The MDNS comment deadline is tomorrow August 2. Lovel requests people call Governors' office. Laura Jo, Christina, Karin are ready to comment. Frankie will forward Lovel's email *DONE*

Karin: Cindy, Giles, and I have gone to meetings of North of Falcon, WADFW – probably clocked more than 400 volunteer hours, driving/traveling/testifying at meetings, etc.

ACTION ITEM: Want to make sure this is on the agenda for a vote to September, so we can represent MRC. Want to move forward on negotiations regarding salmon

10:33 AM Adjourn Meeting

Kendra moves to adjourn, Kailey seconds, All in favor. MRC meeting adjourned

10:35 AM Convene CAG meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven

Last meeting we finalized rankings. Handout summarizes the amount of money available. KWHIAT project will not be funded. The CAG expressed interest in funding all 4 projects. Sam inquired with

project sponsors about potential reductions in their asks, and there isn't wiggle room in their budgets. We can submit top 4 ranked list now as is, and then put 4th project on list as an alternate. That means that if funds become available in next few months it can be applied to the fourth project. The ask for the Crescent Beach project is 65K, we're short on funds by 16K. We may be able to start in on it. Next grant cycle is shorter, funds could be available by September.

MOTION: Laura Jo moves to support funding all four, recognize that the last project is only partially funded this year and will rely on a small amount of next year's funds to cover the fourth. i.e. this will be the #1 priority project for next year's funds (won't need to re-apply, already been through review) Christina seconds. All in favor, Lovel, Karin & Kendra abstain, none opposed. Motion passes.

10:46 AM Adjourn CAG meeting

10:46 AM Re-convene MRC meeting

The Whale Sanctuary Project – seeking a sanctuary for whales held in captivity. Could also be utilized for an ailing whale that needs medical attention (e.g. a situation like J-53).

One site under discussion now is Sucia, in between two big islands in Echo Bay (also considering Deepwater Bay on Cypress but that's not in our County). Concept: full time employees, divers maintaining pens, etc. Maintenance, materials, many ways SJC would be affected

\$50 million in start-up costs, \$2 million per year (Frankie thinks that's a vast under-estimate), all of that should be part of a feasibility study. They also need to do an Environmental Impact Statement, then get a permit. This group came to the Council, which isn't taking a position yet

They have some big financial backers, but seems like it's still in a dream phase. Their tour was largely to introduce the ideas and get public feedback, next they can work on the proposal

Timeline is to start permitting by end of 2019, have it by 2021. Have first whale by 2022

Consultations with experts suggest you can't do proper rehab in a net pen, need a controlled environment, even then can't always be released into the wild

Kendra: the County has a restriction on net-pens that may be a barrier, they should look at our code

Lovel: the council should ask us to provide a recommendation or have it on our work plan for the MRC to review further and make a recommendation.

11:01 AM Kendra moves to adjourn, Phil seconds. Meeting adjourned



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

Thursday, September 5th, 2019

8:30 AM-10:30 AM

CAG Meeting 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Call in number: 1 (360) 370-0599 Conference ID: 285694

The Grange

152 First St N, Friday Harbor

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
8:35 AM	Citizen input
8:40 AM	Acceptance of August meeting minutes
8:45 AM	MRC Marine Stewardship Plan update – Objectives and Process <i>Megan Dethier</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion for Council to endorse MRCs MSA Plan update effort and Marine Managers Workshop.
9:20 AM	Any Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRKW salmon allocation information – <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i> Discussion on State's Oil Spill Contingency Plan update – <i>Lovel Pratt</i>
9:45 AM	NW Straits Commission update – <i>Christina Koons</i>
10:00 AM	MRC business <i>Frances Robertson</i> MRC conference – call for attendees & accommodation needs MRC annual retreat date confirmation
10:10 AM	Project Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern Resident Killer Whales <i>Frances Robertson</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Status of flag project – call for volunteers to assist with final survey effort. Status of outreach efforts and communications efforts Plastic Free Salish Sea: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i> Great Islands Clean-Up September 28th (<i>Kendra Smith, Katie Flemming</i>)
10:30 AM	Adjourn meeting
10:30 AM	Convene CAG meeting: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
	Salmon Recovery - 2020 SRFB grant round timeline -Planning for San Juan Recovery Chapter update
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, Carl Davis, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Jeff Friedman, Kailey Genter, Marta Green, Phil Green, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt,

Ex-officio and County support staff: Laura Ferguson, Katie Fleming, Frances Robertson, Byron Rot, Hillary Eggers Shedd, Kendra Smith, Sam Whitridge

Public: Cy Scammell,

8:31 AM Convene Meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven

8:31 AM Citizen input

Cy Scammell: free diver & founder of nonprofit organization, PNW Protectors. Interested in plight of the Salish Sea and building awareness. Working with Mission Blue (Sylvia Earle), brings attention to regions that need help. Seeking MRC's logo, also have support from Orca Network and SeaDoc.

8:36 AM Acceptance of August meeting minutes

Lovel moves to approve, Phil seconds. All in favor, none opposed, minutes approved.

8:38 AM MRC Marine Stewardship Plan update – Objectives and Process *Megan Dethier*

Working group of MRC members and non-members (Tina Whitman, Marta Green, Kari Koski)

MRC developed the plan in 2007 with a goal of core habitats to protect. The plan is 12 years old, needs revision and updating with current knowledge. The committee aims to review the plan, identify what monitoring has been/will be done, and gaps (eg no seastar wasting disease 12 years ago).

Proposed process:

2019 – review plan (engaged fellow, Abigail Ames. ID gaps in Objectives, ID knowledge holders)

Jan-March 2020: gather info and document data sources, plan a marine managers meeting

March 10-11, 2020: space reserved at FHL for Marine Managers Workshop, both side of border, discuss what we know and next steps. Abigail will assist Frances in organization, sending invites out soon.

April-June 2020: compile report; July-August 2020: conclude review of the MSA plan

Sept: present at a community workshop; October 2020: present updated plan to County Council

Byron: the 2014 Chinook Monitoring and adaptative management plan would be useful

ACTION ITEM: Byron will send around pdf of this report to the MRC

MOTION – Lovell moves to request that the SJC Council endorse MRC's process to update the MSA Plan, including the Marine Managers Workshop in March 2020. Carl seconds. Motion passes.

9:07 AM Other Business

- SRKW salmon allocation information

Karin Roemers-Kleven

Christina chairs this topic. Karin wants to represent the MRC when she goes to fishery meetings to talk about salmon and SRKW recovery, message of allocation of fish (Chinook, chum, coho) for orca.

ACTION ITEM: Karin will create an informational one-sheet summarizing the position (including chinook/chum/coho & lingcod) over this weekend, Kendra will check in with Council members about their thoughts in the coming week. This will happen in time for October 8-9 meeting

- 9:45 Discussion on State's Oil Spill Contingency Plan update *Lovel Pratt*
Legislature tasked DoE with including non-floating oils. Draft of updated rule put out August 7th, comment period until October 6th. Opportunity to put together a draft letter for the Council to consider. Concerned about wildlife response. No plan for submerged/sinking oil and how that would affect the benthos. Lovell wants to draft a letter to provide as comment by the County.
Kendra: Brandon is giving an IOSA update on the 16th on Council meeting

ACTION ITEM: oil spill subcommittee (including Lovel, Jeff, Christina) will draft letter for Council before September 16th

10:03 AM MRC Business *Hillary Eggers Shedd*
Hillary: will send around link for MRC members to be interviewed for short videos. Already done for Phil and Frankie. posted on facebook for 'MRC Mondays'. Will also have photos of Hillary and Abigail

10:00 AM NW Straits Commission update *Christina Koons*
Marta spoke about oil spill work. External Relations committee talked about electing officials. September 25th, Snohomish MRC with Foundation & Commission staff hosting an event 1-4pm a tour of Snohomish county projects. Three spots for SJC MRC members to attend.
Commission meeting on the 27th, neither Christina or Laura Jo can attend. Phil agrees to attend as a second alternate. Rely on Frankie's report.
MRC conference Nov 15-16 in Everett Marriott. SJC should attend

10:10 AM Project Updates *Frances Robertson*
MRC conference – call for attendees & accommodation needs, Frankie can book a block of rooms.
ACTION ITEM: Let Frankie know if interested in attending, stay for the night of November 15th
MRC annual retreat date confirmation – Thursday November 7th. 8:30am-4pm. Please confirm attendance with Frankie (Carl says he can go).
Tina from Friends wants to know if MRC will partner on their community workshop volunteer training for Forage Fish surveys. Saturday October 26th. The answer is yes, include MRC logo on training
ACTION ITEM: Frankie will send out info about workshops on each island when available

- Southern Resident Killer Whales *Frances Robertson*
Status of flag project – call for volunteers to assist with final survey effort. Final report out in 2 weeks. Need volunteers to help collect in end of September and October. Kailey & Ainsley can help

- Great Islands Clean-up September 28th *Katie Fleming*
Fall cleanup (mirroring effort in April). Looking for help. Sept. 28th 10am-2pm. Contact katie@sanjuans.org More info on plasticfreesalishsea.org. Facebook page for 'great islands cleanup'

10:24 AM

Discussion of Cy Scammel's letter, should we endorse with our logo?

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will find out more from SR3 and Seadoc about their involvement and to see if there's a way to support the Mission Blue 'hope spot' idea directly, and email MRC - DONE

10:32 AM Adjourn meeting

Carl moves to adjourn, Phil seconds. Meeting adjourned

10:32 AM Convene CAG meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven

Now through the 2019 grant round. At last meeting we approved/recommended four projects for funding, didn't have funds to cover the entirety of all four. Byron worked up a revised scope for the Crescent Beach project. Final SRFB approval at December meeting.

Plans to combine reviews in future so that CAG and TAG can share discussions, more integrated

2020 SRFB grant round timeline: Two Site visit sessions for lead entities, some in Feb some in May. Requests for site visits need to go in by October 25th. Sam applying for ours to happen in May not February, due to weather concerns, around the time of our typical meeting dates. Remainder of grant round process pushed earlier and final awards made in September rather than December

Laura: another change is that a more complete draft is required of the application prior to the site visit than in previous round, required two weeks before site visit

ACTION ITEM: Sam can present at MRC retreat to update on recent past projects

Can we have a CAG page on the MRC site showcasing projects that have been funded with details? Frankie will check with commission to see if we can include that. If not then reference links

10:45 AM Planning for San Juan Recovery Chapter Update

Updating our chapter of the Puget Sound Recovery plan. In light of MSA, need to make sure that plans are complementary and not working in isolation

Partnership received \$500K total to hire help for several entities to complete their Salmon recovery chapter update. Our lead entity is under consideration for receiving some of that support. If selected, the implication is that we'd move on this over next year with a technical team that would focus on completing the update by Spring 2020 (Draft by summer 2020, Final fully-approved update by Summer 2021)

MOTION: Lovell moves to secure funding for our priority to update the SJC salmon recovery chapter this year. Staff should be directed to document our enthusiasm, readiness, and capacity for this task and other current planning processes that need to be in step and the opportunity for efficient use of staff and volunteer time. This information should be provided to the Puget Sound Partnership. Jeff Friedman seconds, all in favor. Motion passes.

11:03 AM Adjourn CAG meeting

Phil moves to adjourn, Kailey seconds. Meeting adjourned



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

Thursday, October 3rd, 2019

8:30 AM-10:30 AM

CAG Meeting 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Call in number: 1 (360) 370-0599 Conference ID: 285694

The Grange

152 First St N, Friday Harbor

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
8:35 AM	Citizen input
8:40 AM	Acceptance of September meeting minutes
8:45 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forage Fish Spawning Surveys in the San Juans Tina Whitman, Friends of the San Juans
9:20 AM	NW Straits Commission update – <i>Christina Koons/Laura Jo Severson</i>
9:35 AM	MRC business <i>Frances Robertson</i> MRC conference – Rooms confirmed, how to register MRC Symposium Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference participation
9:55 AM	Project Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Southern Resident Killer Whales <i>Frances Robertson</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Status of outreach efforts and communications efforts• Plastic Free Salish Sea: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i> Great Islands Clean-Up September 28th (<i>Kendra Smith, Sam Whitridge</i>)• MSA plan revision<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Workshop save the date/contact listb) Next subcommittee meeting
10:20 AM	Any Other Business
10:30 AM	Adjourn meeting
10:30 AM	Convene CAG meeting: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
	Salmon Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2020 SRFB Grant Timeline• San Juan Salmon Recovery Chapter Update
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genther, Marta Green, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Ivan Reiff, Laura Jo Severson, Kendra Smith

Committee Members absent: Terry Turner, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Jeff Friedman

Ex-officio, County support staff and other: Laura Ferguson, Frances Robertson, Tina Whitman, Sam Whitridge

8:38 AM

Convene Meeting

Christina Koons as Chair

8:38 AM NW Straits Commission update

Christina Koons/Phil Green

From recent NWSC meeting: Snohomish and Lummi tribes are monitoring crab to predict future take.

Question: any discussion of ecosystem services project? There was an intern tasked with this at the NWSC in 2018.

ACTION ITEM: Christina requests more information from Kendra, she'll look into it

NW Straits foundation is working to define staff roles. Communications committee says that we should task NW Straits foundation with seeking funding, Kenny works with specific grants.

MRC conference is November 15-16th, Christina is going, Frankie will send out registration info.

October 8th – Puget Sound day on the Sound at Puyallap tribe youth center, a panel on pinniped management, sent out by Laura Blackmore. Please RSVP if planning to attend

Volunteer Day coincides with Orca recovery day on Whidbey island, October 19th, also a local event.

8:48 AM Citizen input

None, no visitors

8:49 AM Acceptance of September meeting minutes

Not everyone had a chance to review, ACTION ITEM: table this until next month

8:49 AM Forage Fish Spawning Surveys in the San Juans

Tina Whitman

This project targets sand lance. Forage fish play a key role in marine food webs. Three local species: pacific sand lance, surf smelt, and pacific herring. These fish spawn on shorelines at high tide. They have specific spawning sites. DFW developed a protocol, basic/low-cost. Collect sand on beach, use screens to look at material. Agitate sand and eggs to look at in microscope. Now a new method for the egg separation stage uses a vortex bowl to process, better for detecting sand lance eggs.

Last winter we documented 5 new sites due to a combination of increased effort during that crucial winter season plus new better egg detection method. This 3-year project began last winter 2018/2019. It is tide and time limited, a site needs to be covered a few times a month and windows for sampling will be only an hour or a bit more. Cooperative projects going on with the Waldron and Decatur schools/communities. Some volunteers in Stuart. It's usually mostly November/December. Volunteers will complete training including purpose/background of project and practice in sampling methods. Samples are sent off for analysis by Dan Penttila. Data sheets must be submitted properly with date/site/etc. Samplers use phones to collect GPS points and photos.

There will also be trainings on Waldron (Thursday Nov 21st) and Decatur (weds, Nov 13th). One training for ferry-serviced Island on Saturday October 26th, 9am-1pm above FH fire station.
ACTION ITEM: Tina will send out formal training invite through Frankie for broad distribution.

9:32 AM MRC business

Frances Robertson

MRC conference –Registration was sent out, select ‘free’ option because we don’t need to pay.

No opportunity for the MRC’s to present work just educational. No table displays.

The commission has put together an MRC symposium for January 8th, that’s a chance to present to the Commission, Foundation and other MRCs.

Christina: there is a conference committee in NW Straits Commission, they’ve set the agenda.

ACTION ITEM: Christina to ask about this at next Commission meeting – why MRC’s not presenting?

Think of anyone we may want to invite to dinner (Joe Gaydos, anyone from NOAA, Commissioners)

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will forwarding a list to the conference committee, let Frankie know if anyone else to add to list.

Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference in the Spring. April 20-22 in Vancouver. We can participate particularly with posters. We could share oil spill work (ACTION ITEM: will share with Marta), whale flag work. Frankie suggests Abigail put together a poster for the MSA update work. Also Plastic-free Salish Sea website could be launched by that time. Abstracts are due November 1st.

There is funding for MRC members to attend, we’ll need to see what we can cover by that point.

Laura Ferguson is chairing a session at the MRC conference, a hodge-podge of topics about ‘what are local members doing?’, this space created for you to present what you’re doing

ACTION ITEM: Laura will send description to Frankie

ACTION ITEM: Laura Jo, Ivan and Jeff F. please send volunteer hours to Frankie

MRC Retreat on November 7th. Approx. time will be 8:30am -4pm at the FHL Commons. Potluck. Some members can’t attend (Jeff D., Lovell, Patti). We’ll largely focus on the MSA plan and 2020 MRC workplan.

9:50 AM Project Updates

- Southern Resident Killer Whales

Frances Robertson

We put the survey out over the email list and online rather than dock efforts. Final survey being sent out this week and then collating results from this year and last year’s surveys. Flags are still available. New possibility of selling the flag online via the Whale Museum.

There’s a marine division of Seattle Chamber of Commerce, present about flags there in late Feb.?

Kendra: maybe organize a standardized slide show to communicate this, Sound Watch could do that

ACTION ITEM: Christina will find a contact for this. Soundwatch is funded to do this, County will help

a) Status of outreach efforts and communications efforts

- Plastic Free Salish Sea

Frances Robertson

Shows preview of new website, there will be a link for events, associated marketing material.

Need more regional stats. Carl has made three more videos, on the PFSS temporary site.

- Great Islands Clean-Up September 28th

Kendra Smith, Sam Whitridge

This past Saturday, still tallying results from SJI. Shaw at 1,160lbs. (among only 10 volunteers). 2245 lbs. on Lopez. Just under 1500lbs on Orcas. Will do an update for Spring Island clean-up, to coincide with Earth day (50th). Tie in with Plastic-free and hazardous waste removal. For hazardous waste drive next Spring, need to plan according to tides for specialty barge for access to outer islands. The County will send out a mailer or insert to announce date. Then need a plan to be able to process everything. People receiving need to be in hazmat gear.

- MSA plan revision

Frankie & Abigail are currently working on a contact list of people to invite to workshop. We need another subcommittee meeting date. Marine Managers workshop is Tues/Weds March 10-11th, we want MRC members to be there.

ACTION ITEM: Kendra will follow up with Erin Holcomb from Land Bank for potential coordination with terrestrial managers workshop to coordinate, could be some crossover.

Outer Island visitor survey and resident survey for tourism are being completed. Several questions regarded marine environment protection. Broad implications for visitor management. But marine Managers workshop needs to stay focused on the MSA. If other relevant topics, people can stay additional days. Labs accommodations available for up to 30.

10:24 AM Any Other Business

Karin learned that Cowlitz county was issued a permit for a Methane Refinery on the Columbia river, in the town of Kelowna. It would be the State's largest contributor of carbon pollution.

MOTION: Laura Jo moves that 1. our MRC will write a letter to Dept. of Ecology to deny a shoreline permit to the oil refinery. and 2. That we draft an additional letter and ask our County Council to submit it. Jeff seconds. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carries.

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will try to draft something right away

10:29 AM Adjourn meeting

10:29 AM Convene CAG meeting *Christina Koons*

Salmon Recovery: Three projects were funded: Eelgrass, Salmon Point, and Crescent Beach. For Griffin Bay more information was requested. Sam is working with Tina and Trust to get a letter of Intent from Landowner. All projects go to SRFB at December meeting, contracting in January.

1. 2020 SRFB Grant Timeline

Sam outlines changes to the timing this. On October 17th, our lead entity will host a webinar on the new process targeting project sponsors. Dec. 1, 2019 – request for proposals. Will know timing of site visits by end of October. Sam requested dates April/May rather than Feb/March. Final decision will happen at September meeting instead of December as in the past.

Question: has the Letter of Intent ever resulted in not moving forward with a project?

Answer: was requested by TAG due to projects in the past (addressing docks) that went to pre-application but were denied. If this requirement were removed, Sam would need to pre-vet.

ACTION ITEM: Letter of Intent requirement date to be removed (won't require TAG to convene)

ACTION ITEM: we'll table approval of timeline until November when we know site visit dates

2. • San Juan Salmon Recovery Chapter Update

Last month, discussed the chance of coaching support from the PS Partnership but were not selected. Our Salmon Recovery Chapter was established in 2005, needs updating. Support may happen in subsequent years. Discussion of alternate funding source to update the chapter. Byron can bring together a technical group and start on our own, initial meeting to identify what's been done since 2005. Crossover with current MSA plan is timely.

ACTION ITEM: Sam will convene group, come back to the CAG for approval with numbers

10:52 AM Adjourn CAG meeting



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

Thursday, December 5th, 2019

8:30 AM-10:30 AM

CAG Meeting 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Call in number: 1 (360) 370-0599 Conference ID: 285694

The Grange

152 First St N, Friday Harbor

Agenda

8:30 AM	Convene Meeting <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
8:35 AM	Citizen input
8:40 AM	Acceptance of November Retreat meeting minutes
8:45 AM	NOAA proposals for comment Proposed extension of Critical Habitat designation for SRKW & humpback whales Public scoping on ways to reduce vessel impacts on killer whales
9:20 AM	NW Straits Commission update – <i>Christina Koons/Laura Jo Severson</i>
9:35 AM	MRC business <i>Frances Robertson</i> MRC workplan – Review and confirm MRC Symposium – attendees to confirm Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference participation Speaker ideas for 2020
9:55 AM	Project Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Southern Resident Killer Whales <i>Frances Robertson</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Seattle boat show volunteer sign-up• Plastic Free Salish Sea: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i>• MSA plan revision<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Survey for information collectionb) Next subcommittee meeting
10:20 AM	Any Other Business
10:30 AM	Adjourn meeting
10:30 AM	Convene CAG meeting: <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair</i>
	Salmon Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none">• San Juan Salmon Recovery Chapter Update• Project funding increase request
11:00 AM	Adjourn CAG meeting

Attached files: Retreat notes, draft MRC 2020 workplan, NOAA slide deck on public scoping for reducing vessel impacts, slide deck on diluted bitumen mapping from retreat and associated maps.

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Phil Green, Lovel Pratt, Ivan Reiff, Karin Roemers- Kleven

Ex-officio and County support staff:, Frances Robertson, Sam Whitridge

Public: Tom Cowan, Eric Eisenhardt, Laura Ferguson

8:35 AM Convene Meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair

8:35 AM Citizen Input

Tom Cowan, appointee to NW Straits Commission, lives on Lopez, original SJC MRC member in 1998

8:36 AM Acceptance of November Retreat meeting minutes

Lovel made few changes. Megan moves to approve, Phil seconds, Jeff abstains. Minutes approved.

8:45 AM NOAA proposals for comment

Frances Robertson

**Proposed extension of Critical Habitat designation for SRKW & humpback whales,
Public scoping on ways to reduce vessel impacts on killer whales**

Three proposals: critical habitat for humpbacks, SRKW critical habitat revision, and vessel regulation public scoping comments. Lovel, Phil, Ivan, Frances were at recent Vessel Reg. Scoping meeting

1. Proposed Revision of critical habitat for Humpback Whales

Three distinct population segments of humpbacks: endangered western pacific, endangered Central American (< 800 whales total) and threatened Mexican (< 3000 whales total)

Main threats are ship strikes and entanglements (22 known last year = increase from previous years)

Proposed areas for Mexican pop: Alaska, WA, OR, and CA; Central American pop: WA, OR, and CA.

Includes waters on the US side of the Juan de Fuca Strait up to Port Angeles, not the Salish Sea

Ivan: we're seeing humpbacks regularly, almost daily.

Frances: It's prey-related. Recent symposium recording with talk about humpbacks available online

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will send a link to that recording

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=IAOjcEmzP2E&feature=emb_logo

Q: is there any chance of getting the inland Salish Sea designated as part of the critical habitat?

A: we can make that comment, but they're not designating now because there's not sufficient data.

Lovel: comment that critical habitat expansion into inland sea should be considered for the future.

Frances: comment period for humpbacks closes Jan 31st

ACTION ITEM: Frances will look for data on humpback ship strikes

Q: are BC pilots for shipping required to report whale ship strikes?

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will find out about that

The Navy proposes the Quinalt Range site off WA coast as an exclusion area, claim the proposed critical habitat would impact their ability to test equipment/systems and therefore national security. NOAA determined that would be appropriate

Ivan: humpbacks aren't using the entire Quinalt Range but they are traveling through it. As the MRC we don't need to consider the Navy's needs. We can comment that this area shouldn't be excluded. Currently Navy can't test explosives within 50 kn from shore but can use sonar within that range.

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will send around these slides

RECOMMENDATIONS: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-10-09/pdf/2019-21186.pdf>

MOTION: Lovel moves that Frankie draft a comment letter for the council to consider with regard to proposed critical habitat for Humpbacks, Jeff seconds. All approve

2. Proposed Revision of SRKW critical habitat

1. 'Summer core area' = Haro Strait and SJI, 2. Puget sound area, 3. Strait of Juan de Fuca area.

Critical habitat requirements: water quality, prey, passage conditions allowing migration/foraging.

Proposal for 6 new areas along WA, OR, & CA. Range 6.1m-200m depth contour

NMFS is not proposing to include anthropogenic sound as a physical or biological feature.

The Navy is requesting the Quinalt Range Site (QRS) + 10km buffer as exclusion from Critical Habitat.

Q: Do river systems in the QRS supporting chinook/coho runs? Includes Hoh, Queets, and Quinalt

Lovel: our comments should point to the potential presence of salmon in those rivers as whale prey

Ivan: based on trends for SRKW for last few years on outer coast they could be anywhere in that

range. In inland waters in 2017 J pod was only in Salish Sea (east of PA, south of Nanaimo) 88

days/24% of the year, K pod only 36 days, L pod only 47 days. In 2018: J 113 days, K 37 days, L 38

days. In 2019 (only through the end of October): J was here 81 days/26% of that period, K only 22

days/7% of the time period, L 20 days/6.6%. This critical habitat is way overdue and we should push

the Navy on this exclusion zone. It cuts up the critical habitat making transit inaccessible

Frankie: for the QRS, tagged whales mostly from K & L pods, mostly in Southern area. The area

represents 16.4% of whales' winter range. Median time 13 hours with average 6 days between visits

NOAA says insufficient analysis to determine whether Navy activities would adversely affect whales

MOTION: Lovel moves that Frankie draft a comment letter for the council to consider with regard to proposed critical habitat for SRKW. (And that humpback letter can be put off to right after the 1st of the year as to not confuse council. Deadline for SRKW comments is 12/18). Phil seconds, all approve.

Marine Mammal Commission report due on 12/20

Previous MRC comments: Supported inclusion of SJI region in critical habitat for SRKW,

recommended shallow nearshore waters be included, and that NOAA consider impacts of oil spill

Q: Can we request that Council attach 2016 letter to this letter? Those are all good points

3. Reduce vessel impacts on SRKW

NOAA says impacts on finding prey and from vessel strikes are now well-studied.

Scoping comment period deadline: December 23rd

Lovel: one aim during this scoping period is to get some transboundary consistency in regulations

Ivan: Canadian interim measures for 2019 expired at end of October, they're re-starting the process

Lovel: There's value to improving whales' environment through mitigating vessel impacts

History: 2009 MRC approved 200 yd approach, 7 kn speed limit within 400 yards of whale waters.

There must be enforcement and education, NOAA to work closely with Soundwatch

MRC did not support the no-go zone as written because of community concerns

Jeff: traffic separation scheme info about specific locations (?)

ACTION ITEM: Jeff will send that data to Frankie

Frankie: the idea is that we come up with a suite of options for 'quiet zones' for SRKW to forage on the West side, and we present that to the Feds who have the authority to enforce it.

- We support uniform regulations. We encourage transboundary cooperation with consistent messaging. This group supports the effort to look at where foraging-based zones make sense

Conclusion to this discussion: Frankie will draft a letter including the following,

1. NFWF grant research that's underway
2. Continued education and outreach to boaters
3. Enforcement & following Washington state's lead with regard to boating regulations (and include comments from 2009)

MOTION approving this Conclusion by Cathleen, Phil seconds. All in favor.

10:18 AM MRC Business

Frances Robertson

MRC workplan – Review and confirm

Everyone reviews committees and assignments. Confirm Jeff is on oil-spill prevention committee

Frankie asks, Seattle boat show, January 24 – Feb 1 (9 days) – is anyone interested in helping?

Jeff in January, Karin can help. Ivan and Lovel will be out of town

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will send around sign-up sheet for that

Q: anyone want to distribute leaflets to stores? A: Jeff can do some of that on Lopez

Lovel: I can connect with the Oil spill prevention committee. Mostly want to get effectiveness analysis done soon, should be connected with the legislative session.

SO, subcommittee meetings in Jan and Feb, and task: secure funding for ERTV effectiveness analysis

Q: who's doing vessel subcommittee?

A: last year it was Karin, Lovel, Ivan, Laura Jo, Jeff, Jeff, and Frankie. Just need to decide where we want to take that in next year –aim for subcommittee meeting in March, will look at foraging areas

This workplan will be taken to the Council for their approval

MOTION: Phil moves to approve workplan, Jeff seconds, all approve

- MRC Symposium, January 8th at Padilla Bay – confirm attendees

Karin (to talk about PFSS), Lovel and Cathleen are going, Phil, Laura Jo and Jeff are maybes.

- Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference participation

We are presenting 3 projects: whale flags (Frankie), PFSS (Karin), MSA update (Abigail)

Full registration is \$455. Cheapest shared hotel & parking = \$648. Most prefer to share that as follows: Registration for 5 members + registration and accommodation for Frankie & Abigail

Phil, Karin, Cathleen, Jeff and Sam Whitridge plan to attend. Lovel will be there but doesn't need support. Karin need registration not accommodation. Phil needs both.

- Speaker ideas for 2020
 - hopefully Tulalip in Feb/March
 - pinnipeds
 - Taylor to talk about Soundwatch data, hopefully in January (after that he's moving to Colorado) – likely to happen in June 2020
 - interest in Don Noviello from DFW regarding oil spill response – March?

10:35 AM Adjourn Meeting. Phil moves, Cathleen seconds.

10:35 AM Convene CAG Meeting

Karin Roemers-Kleven, Chair

Sam distributes Byron's Cost Increase request for Mackaye Harbor Restoration Design

- shift in project manager from Kendra to Byron, Kendra's time was funded by County but not Byron
 - scope of the study has expanded, additional sites. Grant amount needs to be increased by \$12,500
- IF CAG is ready to sign off on this, then Sam will take it to TAG and if they approve then to RCO
MOTION: Lovel moves to approve the additional cost increase. Phil seconds, all approve

- Ribbon cutting event for the West Beach Culvert Restoration project, Dec. 11th 1pm. This is our longest-standing active project, first funded in 2015. Historically there were cutthroat run at this site
ACTION ITEM: Sam, can you send out before and after photos of the culvert?

- SRFB meeting next week in Olympia. Decisions/final approvals on 2019 grants for projects

- San Juan Salmon Recovery Chapter Update, having our first subcommittee meeting in January

Phil: suggest Jenny DeGroot for the TAG

Sam: I'll reach out to her (and talk about it with Byron). It's important to coordinate with freshwater.

ACTION ITEM: Sam will contact Jenny about being on this subcommittee

10:46 AM Cathleen moves to adjourn CAG Meeting, Phil seconds. CAG meeting adjourned

10:46 AM Reconvene MRC

- Terry needs to resign from MRC now after 6 years. Interested in applying again in a few years

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will see if Terry is willing to remain on MSA update committee – He is! Yey!

MRC = 15 members at most. Some discussion of potential new MRC members, ideas include:

Board of FH, Harbormaster(s), considering a better distribution of members from other islands.

Karin: we're looking enthusiasm, time and willingness to volunteer. We need active members, not just coming to meetings but participation on projects. And think of harbors, not just other islands.

ACTION ITEM: Sam and Jeff will think about potential new members from Orcas and Lopez

ACTION ITEM: Karin will approach Jeff F. about whether he will be able to stay involved at this time

UPDATES

- MSA: Frankie and Abigail have received guidance from the committee, now revising survey,
ACTION ITEM: Frankie to send out doodle poll to set date for the subcommittee to meet in January

10:57 AM Lovel moves to adjourn, Megan seconds. Meeting adjourned