

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 9, 2013, 8:45-10:45am
Islanders Bank Community Meeting Room
Friday Harbor WA**

Members Present: John Aschoff (Chair), Laura Arnold, Rene Beliveau, Barbara Bentley, Kit Rawson, Steve Revella, Jim Slocomb, Billie Swalla (fill-in for Ken Sebens), Tina Whitman

Members Absent: Gregg Dietzman, Michael Durland, Johannes Krieger, David Loyd, Barbara Marrett, Ken Sebens, Jonathan White

Staff: Linda Lyshall, Helen Venada

Guests:

David Cable, Common Sense Alliance
Jack Cory, Island Guardian
Debbie Dickinson, Common Sense Alliance
Brian Goodremont, Pacific Whale Watch Association/ San Juan Kayakers Association
Susan Key, SJC Community Development and Planning
Sharon Kivisto, San Juan Islander
Mike Kaill
Richard Peterson, SJC Council
Barbara Rosenkotter, Salmon Recovery Lead Entity Coordinator
Laura Jo Severson, IOSA/ Red Cross
John Van Lund, Marine Structures Engineering, Inc.
Todd Zackey, Tulalip Tribes

Upcoming Meetings/Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
1/11/13	MRC Nearshore meeting	Padilla Bay	9:30am-2:30pm
1/16	SN – Public Opinion Research	Whidbey Island Bank	12:00-2:00pm
1/23	MRC regular meeting/ Eelgrass Restoration	Islanders Bank, FH	8:45-10:45am
2/27 to 3/1	Marine Managers Workshop	FH Commons & Dining Hall	

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The meeting was called to order by Chair John Aschoff at 8:45am.

Citizen comments:

Mike Kaill said that he has been frustrated in the fight against stormwater pollution that doesn't seem to get anywhere; he has written a letter to the Journal and approached various people with no results. He said that turbidity at the Spring Street stormwater outfall was recently measured at about 20 times over background (5 parts over background, measured 100 parts); the plume at the Spring Street dock

was brown. He intends to file a report with the state Department of Ecology and asked the MRC to consider possible consequences regarding the Spring Street raingarden. Tina Whitman said that the raingarden was not designed to solve the entire problem and that it filters stormwater runoff from First Street, not Spring Street; she added that monitoring needs to be continued and the issue is well documented but has not yet been addressed. Linda Lyshall said the raingarden was recently evaluated by an expert, resulting in anticipated modifications. Kit Rawson said that information needs to be collected and made public; the important issue is what happens to the marine environment! Rene Beliveau said the Spring Street raingarden (not in County jurisdiction) is a demonstration garden and was not designed to remediate all of the stormwater pollution entering the bay.

Brian Goodremont said that he is interested in being on the MRC group that will put together a broad framework recommendation on NOAA's workshop no-go zone proposal for presentation to the Council in January. There was discussion about how he and other stakeholders could be made aware of such meetings. John Aschoff said the ad hoc group will meet today at 2:15pm and the public is always invited; he welcomed Brian to join in. John clarified that Lynn Barre's proposal was to hold a community workshop involving stakeholders and she asked for help with that (eg. a steering committee made up of state, local, tribal members). Is San Juan County willing to participate in, plan, and promote such a workshop? John added that today's meeting will discuss how to approach the Council on the topic. Steve Revella pointed out that this situation (of stakeholders not knowing about today's ad hoc group's meeting) is an unintended consequence that appears to suggest the lack of transparency. There was discussion on how the MRC (and all other advisory committees) could address the problem. Jim Slocomb said that the UW's Municipal Research and Services Center could provide an excellent presentation on legal requirements on transparency. Laura Arnold suggested that the executive subcommittee discuss, and put in writing, what the protocol is for meeting notices.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes of the 12/19/12 meeting were approved as amended.

Science subcommittee report: Barbara Bentley said the group met last month and developed a draft action plan. She reported that the Marine Specimen Bank handbook has been completed for use in training citizen volunteers; it includes a science background on collection, sampling and storage protocols. A one-day training workshop is being planned. Data management was discussed and San Juan County will be contacted to request use of its database; Barbara said that Greg Sutherland of the county's GIS team is on board. She noted that Dan Doty said that sites for sediment samples should be from soft shore sites with the process being easier if they allow public access (especially for sampling after an event like an oil spill). Jim Slocomb has created GIS maps that identify softshores on public property; Barbara then used these and Google maps to narrow down the site choices. Barbara pointed out that there are three major vessel routes to consider (Rosario, Boundary Pass, Haro Straits), as well as the ferry routes. She will email a draft site map to the MRC for comments and additions. Barbara said sampling requires funding and she will write a proposal to establish baseline data for the Marine Specimen Bank.

Northwest Straits Commission (NWS): Steve Revella said that the next meeting will be on January 25th and there will be a landowner seminar this Friday on shoreline processes, intervention and armoring.

Policy subcommittee report: Tina Whitman said the group is awaiting the next phase of the Shoreline Master Program update. Jim asked Rene about the state of the DOE checklist.

Staff report: Linda said that the NWS staff and MRC Chairs met last week in Padilla Bay. Carolyn

Gibson is planning to do a large-scale proposal on restoration opportunities (e.g. kelp, eelgrass). The Mussel Watch Program will attempt to remove cages set out in November to gather information at the three SJC sites. The contents will be flown to Olympia (depending on weather/fog) for chemical analysis. Linda said this pilot project provides SJC with practice and is part of a regional effort.

Linda announced that Susan Key has been hired as a new SJC Community Development and Planning (CDP) employee; she will be reporting to Rene and will work on the Green Shores and other nearshore projects.

Chair report: John said that the focus of the upcoming Marine Managers Workshop will be a panel discussion on ocean acidification. He asked if the panel could be presented on Orcas and Lopez Islands as well as San Juan Island. He noted that the NWS monthly newsletter has good distribution and might be used for outreach. Robyn Dupre, Executive Director of the Northwest Straits Foundation, will speak here in the near future. John suggested resuming the discussion on participation in Sound IQ.

Watershed Management RFP: Linda announced a new grant opportunity through the Department of Ecology and the Department of Commerce; she suggested that SJC submit a proposal to sample nearshore areas for pollution from watersheds using new data. The San Juan Islands Conservation District would be the lead on this with the MRC helping with implementation. Linda will be attending SJC Stormwater Citizens Advisory Committee meetings.

MRC 2012 Annual Report: Linda distributed copies of her summary of 2012 accomplishments and activities as well as a list of 2013 meeting agenda topics. Tina commented that these documents are a good tool for communication of what the MRC does; she suggested that the list be sent to the email list of interested parties. John said he sees it as an internal spreadsheet for the Work Plan, which will also include identification of which member or other person will lead each item.

MRC 2012 and 2013 Work Plans: The 2012 Work Plan and draft 2013 Work Plan were distributed; Linda noted that the 2013 draft uses NWS grant language and the MRC has funding through the end of the year. Kit said the draft provides good direction to move forward on the Action Agenda strategies. Laura suggested that the 2009 Milestones be used as a model to augment the Annual Report and Work Plan to provide context. There was discussion on the timeline and process for the draft plan to be presented to the County Council before submitting to NWS. John asked that the executive subcommittee and other members comment on the draft of MRC 2013 meeting agenda topics which provides suggestions for presentations as well. John led a review of subcommittee meeting schedules.

Linda reported that Ken Sebens is on sabbatical until the end of April. She introduced and welcomed Billy Swalla as Ken's replacement on the MRC. Billy said that she is the Acting Director of Friday Harbor Labs (FHL) and is a biology professor at the University of Washington (UW), teaching and researching since 1999 at FHL; she has laboratories at FHL and UW and has been studying marine animals for 25 years with a current focus on communication and genome studies (genes for regeneration). Billy noted that FHL is now part of the new UW College of the Environment.

Council Relations: Rich Peterson, acting as Council liaison to the MRC, said the Council will attempt to have one of them present at each MRC meeting. He said that the link between the Council and the MRC is important. Three of the current six-person Council (Patty Miller, Mark Forlenza, Rich Peterson) are interested in meeting with the MRC executive subcommittee to clarify roles (NWS, MRC, County Council) and to try to remove any confusion in their overlapping interests; Rich will

work with John to set a date for the conversation.

Rich said he and the Council had issue with the word “revise” used in the MRC letter recently sent to the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW). The follow-up letter from DFW, he said, seems to respond to the request for a change in work windows; Rich said such a request should have come from the Council, not the MRC. The Council wants to know all the implications of the letters' contents (such as possible issues around work done at ferry docks). Members of the MRC responded that the MRC letter, as discussed at the last meeting, meant to send the message that “here is the data, please accept it and acknowledge accordingly;” the use of the word “request” was an oversight and should have been “review,” not “request” or “revise.” Barbara Rosenkotter added that DFW's proposed timing suggests opening the work windows when salmon presence is peaking here. Kit said that in hindsight the MRC letter should have addressed the issue by asking that DFW evaluation come back to the MRC for discussion of factors other than data provided by the MRC. John said the letter's intent was to ask the agency to consider its policy in light of the new data. Rich reiterated that the Council needs to meet with the executive subcommittee to clarify this. Tina pointed out that DFW is reviewing all of its Hydraulic Permit Approval criteria.

Rich pointed out that the last bullet under “Advisory” role in the draft MRC activities summary suggests that the MRC wrote salmon policy letters, which is a Council role. Linda responded that she used the language from the NWS grant agreement, which was approved by the Council before being sent out.

Citizen Comments: John Van Lund said that he is now project manager for Marine Structures Engineering, Inc.; projects often have a limited time for completion, which represents people's jobs. He pointed out there are serious implications of work windows being shortened, adding that “we are all supportive of fish!”

Jack Cory noted that the MRC letter to WDFW was a hot topic at the last MRC meeting. He asked why the draft was not sent to the Council for approval before being sent out.

Mike Kaill said that he is designing a free course for Skagit Valley College (San Juan Island campus) in marine biology for interested kids and adults. He said he would enjoy partnering with the MRC in developing the course as an outreach effort.

Sharon Kivisto said the DFW letter is important because policy could affect many businesses; she emphasized that transparency is at issue.

Kit introduced Todd Zackey who is the “go-to guy” on nearshore matters at Tulalip tribes and is a member of the Island County MRC. Todd will soon be replacing Kit on the Salmon Recovery Technical Advisory Group when he retires.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25am.

Submitted by Helen Venada

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Members Absent: Laura Arnold, Johannes Krieger, Billie Swalla, Jonathan White, Tina Whitman

Staff: Linda Lyshall, Helen Venada

Guests:

Jack Cory, Island Guardian
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Phil Green, The Nature Conservancy
Sharon Kivisto, San Juan Islander
Patty Miller, SJC Council
Barbara Rosenkotter, Salmon Recovery Lead Entity Coordinator
Richard Swanson, Kayakers Association
K. Wolson

Upcoming Meetings/Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
2/2	Island County Sound Waters, 2013 (to register: http://www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu/island/soundwaters/2013.htm)	Whidbey Island, Oak Hbr School	All day
2/6	MRC regular meeting	Islanders Bank, FH	8:45-10:30am
2/6	Salmon Habitat Monitoring Pres.	Islanders Bank	10:30-11:30
2/6	AAOG Implementation Committee	Islanders Bank	11:45-1:45
2/20	Soundwatch Update, Eric Eisenhardt	Islanders Bank	tbd
2/2-3/1	Marine Managers Workshop	FH Commons & Dining Hall	

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The meeting was called to order by Chair John Aschoff at 8:45am. John announced that both presenters for today will not attend the meeting due to illness; the presentations will be re-scheduled.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes of the 1/9/13 meeting were approved as amended.

John announced that Patty Miller has been assigned by the County Council as the official liaison to the MRC. Patty said she is happy to work with the MRC and that the Council has decided that, instead of the planned meeting with three Council members and the MRC executive subcommittee, she will work through current issues with the executive subcommittee that will meet on January 30th. Patty added that there is some sense of urgency in this, although the Council is working with all advisory committees now.

Science subcommittee report: Barbara Bentley said the group will meet today after the MRC meeting to look at the parts of the Shoreline Master Program update the group should be reviewing. The subcommittee will also discuss the proposed NOAA community workshop.

Northwest Straits Commission (NWS): Steve Revella said that the landowner seminar held on January 11th provided good information on restoration and owner participation. Linda added that she also attended the seminar and appreciated the NOAA and WA Department of Fish and Wildlife presentations with insights on what the focus should be on nearshore presence; she will follow up with the Snohomish County MRC.

Executive subcommittee report: Linda reported that the group discussed the SJC resolution that defines MRC roles, responsibilities, and procedures; this will be re-visited more closely at the next meeting. It was agreed that meeting minutes will be distributed to the larger audience following their approval by the MRC. Linda said the MRC is trying to be more proactive with the community and Council to address the misperception of MRC transparency. Barbara Rosenkotter said she is trying to track down the County resolution forming the MRC (effective July 2005 or late 2004?). She will also research Council meeting minutes from that time period.

Staff report: Linda distributed copies of the volunteer recording sheets for members to fill out.

Open Public Meetings Act discussion: Linda said that according to RCW 42.30, the Washington Open Public Meetings Act, the only allowable purpose for MRC members to engage in email discussions is to schedule a meeting! Member recipients of emails from other members can respond to Linda but not to “reply to all.” Discussion followed, including implications from Council Resolution 59-1999(9) and the MRC business rules adopted in 1999 as legal basis for this rule. Patty Miller said that all actions, including discussions, are subject to the Open Public Meetings Act rules and this applies to subcommittee meetings as well (the MRC has authority to form subcommittees). Jim Slocomb asked if communications distributed through a listserve might also be affected. Patty added that training from the Council to advisory committees is being planned.

Proposed recommendation to County Council on NOAA workshop: John provided background on the issue: In late November, 2012 NOAA’s Lynn Barre asked the MRC to engage in a discussion/ planning group on what the NOAA could do to move the orca recovery plan objectives forward. This same information was presented by Lynn at the December 5th MRC meeting, with 3 Council members and many from the public present. The MRC passed a motion later to form an ad hoc committee to review the request further and to report in January to the full MRC. John said that topics of discussion included drawbacks, timeline, general conclusions, including clarity that NOAA is responsibility for organizing such a workshop. John added that NOAA has funding to do the workshop in the first quarter only and that participation of federal, state, tribal, and local stakeholders is encouraged. Copies of a discussion draft letter from the MRC to the Council on the proposed NOAA workshop on orca protection were distributed.

Motion: Jim Slocomb moved, and David Loyd seconded, that the draft be approved and sent as written.

Discussion followed. John will forward a link to the April 14, 2011 news release to the Council. He noted that the timing of the proposed workshop is one of the initial workshop planning tasks.

The motion was approved, with Steve Revella opposing.

Barbara Marrett mentioned that Island County’s WSU Beachwatchers will hold their annual Sound Waters symposium on February 2nd at Oak Harbor School on Whidbey Island.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45am.

Submitted by Helen Venada

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Members Present: John Aschoff (Chair), Laura Arnold, Rene Beliveau, David Loyd, Barbara Marrett, Kit Rawson, Steve Revella, Jim Slocomb, Billie Swalla, Jonathan White

Members Absent: Barbara Bentley, Gregg Dietzman, Michael Durland, Johannes Krieger, Patty Miller (County Council Liaison to MRC), Tina Whitman

Staff: Linda Lyshall, Helen Venada

Guests:

Jack Cory, Island Guardian
K. Dolsen, Common Sense Alliance
Eric Eisenhardt, Soundwatch
Brian Goodremont, Pacific Whale Watch Association/ San Juan Island Kayakers Association
Phil Green, The Nature Conservancy
Susan Key, SJC Shoreline Stewardship Coordinator
Barbara Rosenkotter, Salmon Recovery Lead Entity Coordinator
Richard Swanson, San Juan Island Kayakers Association

Presentation: Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update by Colin Maycock

Upcoming Meetings/Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
2/20	MRC regular meeting	Islanders Bank, FH	8:45-10:30am
2/20	Soundwatch Update, Eric Eisenhardt	Islanders Bank	tbd
2/2-3/1	Marine Managers Workshop	FH Commons & Dining Hall	

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The meeting was called to order by Chair John Aschoff at 8:45am.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes of the 1/23/13 meeting were approved as read.

Northwest Straits Commission (NWS): Steve Revella said that the Commission continues to seek funding and has reorganized, i.e. from 4 to 3 full-time staff members and half as many meetings. There was member discussion on the topic of continued funding. Steve announced that he is stepping down from membership on the MRC as of today. He said that working with the bright and hardworking people on the MRC has been a highlight of his 12 years in San Juan County. Members agreed that Steve's time with the committee, as both a member and Chair, have been appreciated, noting his strength of commitment.

John pointed out that Steve will need to be replaced as the NWS and LIO (Local Integrating Organization) representative from San Juan County. John will serve as short-term alternate to the NWS until a replacement comes forth.

Executive subcommittee report: Laura reported that the group had a discussion with Patty Miller (as liaison to the MRC) on what the next step will be to look at roles, responsibilities, and procedures of the MRC acting as an advisory group to the Council and also as the Citizens Salmon Recovery Group. The subcommittee is writing a draft on the topic for review by the MRC. Laura said the 2001 resolution is still in effect but it doesn't address, for instance, the role of the MRC as the Citizens Salmon Recovery Group which came later.

David Loyd said that he attended recent meetings of tribal and non-tribal community members participating in herring monitoring and of a San Juan Islands citizens monitoring group developing a database. David said that more and more people are putting in many citizen volunteer hours on significant work. He strongly emphasized keeping the Marine Stewardship Area (MSA) concept functioning and also growing, adding that, hopefully, all San Juan County residents know why we need to protect our marine resources. Kit Rawson echoed that it is important to continue to talk about the MSA plan and to link it with the wider Salish Sea region. He referenced the work of the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project by Long Live the Kings (<http://www.lltk.org/rebuilding-populations/salish-sea-marine-survival/overview>). Kit added that he hopes the upcoming Marine Managers Workshop will create more opportunities for regional collaboration and that communicating information from the San Juans area is important to the whole. John agreed that a lot of significant work is going on here and it is important to do effective outreach.

Staff report: Linda distributed copies of the volunteer recording sheets for members to fill out. She asked which members would be attending the NWS retreat, March 20th-21st. John reported that the County Council will be providing training for MRC Chairs on February 25th; he asked members to let him know of any procedural questions they'd like him to raise (for instance, use of email listserv's).

Proposed NOAA workshop update: John said that Jamie Stephens wrote a draft support letter on the MRCs recommendation letter to the Council; the Council then decided not to take action at this time. Patty Miller will follow up, checking with Lynn Barre to clarify NOAA's most recent approach to the proposed workshop and also sending information from the rest of the Council about local control. John read Patty's letter, which also proposes a report from the MRC; he read to the group his draft response to her letter. There was discussion on endangered species and federal reaction; Kit noted that vessel noise is one of the factors in NOAA's orca recovery plan. Rene Beliveau said that San Juan County received no request for review or input of the biological opinion in the guidelines that FEMA developed; he said that nobody can live with the guidelines as written. John emphasized that whales are especially important to people who live here in the San Juans and their survival has significant economic implications.

Sound Waters Conference report: Barbara Marrett said the topic of the keynote address at the Oak Harbor event was "Global Warming's Impact on the Pacific Northwest: Separating Fact from Hype" by UW professor of Atmospheric Sciences and climatologist, Cliff Mass. Barbara reported that there has been no global progress on carbon dioxide emissions; although CO2 emissions in the U.S. are down slightly, China and India are emitting more CO2 exponentially, particularly from coal-fired plants. Barbara said that it seems that most people are not willing to give up their lifestyles to reduce CO2 production. Nate Schulz presented on stormwater and its impacts on coho salmon-bearing streams. Seattle has seen a 60% mortality rate before spawning, likely due to the common "toxic cocktail" of over 80,000 chemicals including metals, herbicides, pesticides, antidepressants, etc. that stormwater often carries into streams. Barbara said that Curtis Hinman of WSU recently reported on the vast amount of land in Puyallup being used as a test site for stormwater runoff, silt, etc. She noted the

importance of proper, regular maintenance of stormdrain clean-outs. Barbara will forward other programs and presentations from the conference to members. Laura said she'd like to know more about storm drain maintenance requirements and programs from the Town of Friday Harbor and SJC Public Works.

Presentation: Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update

Colin Maycock, of SJC Community Development and Planning (CDP), presented background on the SMP update process...since the April 27, 2012 meeting in the Grange that discussed SMP elements in the Department of Ecology scope of work contracts. A third draft of proposed regulations has been prepared that will be published in a week or two (draft goals and policies). Colin said these largely mirror Critical Area Ordinance regulations that already exist. For instance, the proposed shoreline designation that does away with Rural Farm Forest on Shaw Island and in Eastsound on Orcas is already covered in other regulations. New shoreline designation being proposed includes ports, marinas, marine transportation (public and private)...allowing for some development, but mostly to maintain existing transportation elements. Other changes have been mapped, along with the rationale for each change.

Colin said that regulations being changed will be revised to be more clear and user-friendly, as much as possible. These cover topics such as primary uses, residential development and bulkheads, and docks/moorage. Being proposed, for example, are height limits to residential homes (from 28' to 35'); shoreline stabilization measures, with more exhaustive permit process, to protect structures like primary residences; efforts to promote use of alternatives to bulkheads/shoreline stabilization to avoid, minimize, and mitigate; changes to reflect use of community docks/piers to serve 5 or more, with clear standards for grading/width/length.

Existing aquaculture regulations, Colin said, are in-depth and no major changes are being proposed. However, DOE is concerned about the justification for distance requirements, etc. Barbara Rosenkotter interjected that shellfish (which clean water) are very different from fin fish.

This part of the meeting was closed at 10:00am.

The next part of the meeting began at 10:30am (a joint meeting with the MRC and other parties doing monitoring projects).

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON SALMON HABITAT MONITORING SURVEY

In attendance were MRC members: John Aschoff, Laura Arnold, David Loyd, Barbara Marrett, Kit Rawson, Jim Slocomb, and Billie Swalla; Eric Eisenhardt, Soundwatch; Ed Hale, SJC Public Works Utilities Manager; Susan Key, SJC Shoreline Stewardship Coordinator; Linda Lyshall, MRC Coordinator; Barbara Rosenkotter, Lead Entity Salmon Recovery Coordinator; Kim Sundberg, Salmon Recovery Technical Advisory Group; Stan Walsh, Skagit River System Cooperative

Bruce Crawford (bruce.crawford@noaa.gov) began with a broad background of his work on this project and of his work with NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Northwest Region (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington). He assists the states, tribes, and others to improve monitoring efforts. NOAA has produced guidelines for the Puget Sound Habitat Initiative Monitoring Strategy and Habitat Monitoring Assessment that tie good habitat restoration actions with good fish monitoring. Bruce emphasized that good fish data is needed. Data gaps were identified and cost assessments and prioritization have been completed. Bruce said that documents published online are available and will be used by NOAA and others.

Bruce has been visiting the 14 watersheds in Puget Sound to verify their ongoing monitoring efforts for a report to the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program Steering Committee and others. Bruce is also on the Salmonid Working Group which is preparing its habitat piece now. He gave a brief summary of habitat trends and monitoring effectiveness in Puget Sound today; freshwater status (WRIAs) have been completed and marine inventories are now being built (San Juan County, he noted, is ahead of the curve on shoreline inventory). Monitoring elements include inventories/baselines, status of monitoring trends, and effectiveness of monitoring actions. Bruce said that habitat (i.e. species population) monitoring should be the priority focus for funding now. The proposed monitoring strategy includes land use and cover, freshwater habitat monitoring (Puget Sound- and watershed-scale), monitoring nearshore and estuaries, and quantifying recent trends to learn of the effectiveness of habitat restoration projects. Bruce hopes to tie in these efforts with local efforts. He will email tables to the MRC for filling in local information. Barbara Rosenkotter pointed out that there are existing documents (inventories) as well as new stormwater monitoring documents that will add scientific region-wide productivity.

Bruce said that San Juan County is the only one to show impacts of permitting and has done great inventories (these can be used as status trends, if updated). He wants to capture all the work that's been done here.

Ed Hale said the stormwater piece is being formatted, with only two sampling events so far. Susan Key will assist in providing an overview of monitoring efforts previously documented via the Marine Stewardship Area Monitoring Plan . Barbara Rosenkotter will provide information on more recent efforts such as the riparian vegetative inventory (from PIAT), stream typing information from Wild Fish Conservancy which is based on protocols approved by DNR, and juvenile salmon utilization information. Friday Harbor Labs also has a grant for an ocean acidification study.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45am
Submitted by Helen Venada

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MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
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Members Absent: Rene Beliveau, Gregg Dietzman, Johannes Krieger, Patty Miller (County Council Liaison to MRC), Billie Swalla, Jonathan White, Tina Whitman

Staff: Linda Lyshall, Helen Venada

Guests:

Jenny Atkinson, The Whale Museum
Patrick Charapata, The Whale Museum
Jack Cory, Island Guardian
K. Dolsen, Common Sense Alliance
Brian Goodremont, Pacific Whale Watch Association/ San Juan Island Kayakers Association
Phil Green, The Nature Conservancy
David Hoopes
Barbara Rosenkotter, Salmon Recovery Lead Entity Coordinator
Kim Sundberg, Technical Advisory Group, Salmon Recovery
Richard Swanson, San Juan Island Kayakers Association
Dona Wuthnow, SJC Parks and Fair

Presentation: Soundwatch and Boater Education by Eric Eisenhardt

Upcoming Meetings/Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
2/27-3/1	Marine Managers Workshop	FH Commons & Dining Hall	noon
3/20	MRC regular meeting	Islanders Bank, FH	8:45-10:30am
3/21-3/22	NW Straits Commission Retreat	Padilla Bay	9am-5pm

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The meeting was called to order by Chair John Aschoff at 8:45am.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes of the 2/6/13 meeting were approved as read.

Science subcommittee report: Barbara Bentley said that invoices for the SJC Mussel Watch Program have been coming in and, without any grant funding at this time, donations would be appreciated. She said that finding ways to integrate citizen science work into data collection, for instance, could help in securing potential funding sources. Barbara noted that this is a hot topic now for the WA Department of Ecology (DOE); some research is being designed specifically for citizen involvement, which can provide a useful tool for scientific evaluation. She circulated a copy of a special issue of the August 2012 “Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment” on new pathways to public involvement in research.

Barbara has spoken informally with the education director at the National Science Foundation (NSF)

about possible 2014 funding to support citizen science here (in cooperation with local, state, and federal agencies); in particular, the marine data bank project requires funding for database collection, training, developing procedures (all in anticipation of an oil spill occurring here). She suggested that doing some chemical analysis before storing samples could help record pre-spill conditions, although she has been advised by an “in-house” chemist that amount of change over time can distort data. For example, mercury adsorbs onto glass container surfaces so that accurate measurement of mercury in water cannot be done two hours after collection. Barbara said the NSF seems to be interested in workshops, not necessarily analysis work.

Linda Lyshall said that she had a recent meeting with Dan Doty of the Washington Fish and Wildlife Service (NWFS) on the marine specimen bank project. WDFW offered supplies and training at no cost.

David Loyd asked what variables would be looked at in mussels, for instance. Barbara said that certain compounds such as PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons), metals (copper, zinc, mercury) and a whole array of contaminants might be included. She is doing a literature search now. Barbara said it is important to do pre-spill sampling inside mapped sensitive areas that can be boomed. Laura Arnold suggested that there be coordination with the state's Geographic Response Plans (GRPs); Barbara said that there is a 50% overlap. She thanked Jim for producing the map to identify potential sites for the Marine Specimen Bank and future workshop.

Northwest Straits Commission (NWS): John Aschoff said he is still looking for an NWS representative to replace Steve Revella. He has been filling in short-term and noted that the experience is interesting and can provide good networking opportunities. John also noted that NWS now has fewer meetings, some of which can be done by conference call.

Staff/Chair report: Linda asked how many members would be registering for the upcoming Marine Managers Workshop. **The next regular MRC meeting will be on March 20th.**

John said there has been a request from DOE to use last year's oil spill preparedness information from the Putting It All Together project, which represents part of the citizen salmon recovery work and part MRC work. The request is for more detail and for data the DOE does not now have to update GRP information. (Copies of the 1/2/13 request letter and GRP Strategy Criteria were distributed.) Laura suggested that the Economic Development Council could help fill out the data sheet for listing economic resources at risk. There was discussion on the source of the information, the need for more guidance specifics (standards) from DOE, and whether other groups might have other information to add. It was noted that others, beside San Juan Islanders, use the natural resources here (e.g. tribal users who should be asked to participate in providing the requested information). Linda suggested that there be input from the FH Labs on the reserves. David noted that this effort could lay the groundwork for future state and San Juan County work.

Barbara Bentley pointed that the entire north shore of Orcas Island is not identified (since it is not boomable). Linda said that GRPs focus on boomable areas and that DOE has more complete mapping of vulnerable areas. The question was posed: Is the County Council interested in having the MRC answer the request? John said that a list of economic resources needs to be developed in any event, as a good exercise for use in Marine Stewardship Area protection and for addition to the Work Plan.

Linda said that Coast Guard Captain Scott Ferguson reported that the Coast Guard wants to use dispersants in these waters in response to an oil spill situation. It is known, she said, that toxins in dispersants do enter the food chain and that such potential risks need to be weighed in relation to any

benefits. Captain Ferguson will be at the Marine Managers Workshop next week (one-day on oil spill response and readiness); although the Coast Guard makes the final decision, local input is sought. Barbara Marrett said that there is now Scandinavian technology that removes oil from water but its use does not comply with US regulations since some oil goes back into the water.

John said he will draft a letter to DOE, presenting it first to the County Council for review and direction.

The “MRC Story:” Laura said the executive subcommittee has put together a draft document (copies distributed) that outlines the history, structure, responsibilities, and roles of the MRC...for use by the County Council in follow-up discussion. Appendix A attempts to describe MRC relationships with other organizations. Laura read the drafted set of milestones since creation of the MRC in 1996, and said that others would be added (e.g. the derelict gear retrieval project that began in the San Juans; the state using the San Juan Islands' model for removal of derelict vessels to expand the program; the marine specimen bank; etc.). Laura will email the list to Linda for incorporation into the draft document. The question arose of whether to send the draft to Patty Miller with the request for scheduling it on a Council agenda. Kit asked if more relevant references needed to be added (e.g. growing decline in species; increased human/vessel use, etc.).

David Loyd said that a two-volume compilation of oral history of Waldron Island Neighborhood Natural History Observations has been published. Copies of “Waldron Bird Observations, 1905-2012” and “Waldron Nature Observations, 1880-2012,” edited by Glen Riley, were circulated.

Jenny Atkinson introduced Patrick Charapata, who has been coordinating Soundwatch work for the Whale Museum, and has recently been promoted to the position of Research Coordinator for the Museum. Patrick has also been the Stranding Network coordinator.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION: Soundwatch and Boater Education

Eric Eisenhardt said that Patrick Charapata is working on database management / GIS maps for the Soundwatch program. Eric presented a season recap of Soundwatch data: he said there are now 84 Southern resident orcas at the last count, down from 88 in 2011 (6 have been lost and there were 2 newborns). Three of the thirteen present in the Discovery Bay anomaly / Navy sonar event of February 2012 are among the deceased orcas.

The 2011 Federal Vessel Laws have been updated, extending the 100-yard restriction for proximity to the orcas to 200 yards in Washington State inland waters; it is also unlawful for vessels to be within 400 yards of the path of the killer whales; there is a \$11,000 fine per violation of the Marine Mammal Protection Act ruling.

Eric distributed copies of the Soundwatch/The Whale Museum's “Whalewatching in the Salish Area,” as well as the “Kayaker Code of Conduct” and the “Be Wise Whale Guidelines” (crafted by the Pacific Whale Watch Association and San Juan Island Kayak Association). These voluntary best practice guidelines for operators are handed out on the water by the Soundwatch program.

Eric reported that Soundwatch had over 60 on-the-water whale days last season and 306.5 hours were spent monitoring vessels; 525 vessel operators (1,844 passengers) were contacted. Most of June was missed due to a lack of funds. Eric presented a graph showing the growth of the regional commercial whale watch fleet which plateaued in the late 1990's. Other graphs represented the number of citations of cetacean sightings, density of vessel contact, number of infractions/ incidents by vessel type

(enforced mostly by WDFW). Eric noted that transboundary data is included, that WDFW was present in San Juan waters only 15 days during the last season, and that commercial operators do a much better job of observing both the voluntary and regulatory guidelines than private vessel operators.

Charts were presented of kayak data, with six study zones along the west side of San Juan Island. The breakdown of kayaks observed with the whales within half-mile of shore represented 82% of commercial and 17% private kayaks; Eric pointed out that there are more commercial kayaks than private ones and that private kayakers were paddling more of the time in the path of whales. Eric recommended that kayakers would do better to raft up when traveling with whales in order to reduce the area taken up by vessels.

Eric reiterated that the Whale Watch Operators Association is well informed whereas private vessel operators, including fishing charters, originate from several areas outside of the San Juans. The question is how to reach these with education on the voluntary guidelines. Suggestions were to enlist other organizations to help, to provide speakers to organizations, and to walk the docks.

Dona Wuthnow said that the launch permit (for all vessels) from the County Park on San Juan Island is free for residents and \$7 per day or \$35 annually per boat for non-residents. All vessel operators are required to take the boater education program and the boat is then tagged. The program will be continued this year (every other year for those who have already done the education program). Launch data is recorded in conjunction with the Whale Museum/Soundwatch program and County Parks; Dona said that there would be improved signage this year. Barbara Rosenkotter suggested that trend analyses would verify if the training is effective. Soundwatch records data on previous contact with vessel operators and on associated boater training at the Park.

Dona said there needs to be a cultural shift for kayakers who believe they don't impact the orcas. She also noted that it takes time to see results of a training program. Brian Goodremont suggested that there be a focus on how to educate more private motored or kayak operators (with NOAA funding?) and that more enforcement efforts need to be dedicated here. Brian added that these issues could be addressed at the upcoming Marine Managers Workshop.

“Killer Whale Protection, a NOAA Fisheries and WDFW Workshop Prospectus:”

John Aschoff distributed copies of the letter outlining the agencies' plan to hold a one-day workshop in late March, updating implementation of the federal and state ruling that requires boaters to stay 200 yards away from killer whales and to keep the path of the whales clear. Education, monitoring and enforcement discussions would be included in the workshop. The letter asks for suggestions to help in planning the workshop. Along with evaluating local experience with the regulations, the workshop hopes to collect information on whether and what type of additional protections might contribute to killer whale recovery. The workshop is a first step in a long-term process of review of regulatory effectiveness and of consideration of potential next steps to address vessel effects on killer whales (including the concept of a seasonal no-go zone).

Brian said there are alternatives to a no-go zone. David Hoopes suggested that “orca” be used instead of “killer whale;” Kit suggested checking the etymology first.

Jennie said that the orca calf stranded in Dungeness Bay has been identified, using NOAA genetic data, as being from J pod. A full toxicity necropsy will be performed.

Citizen comments: Kim Sundberg said that Kit Rawson's energy on the TAG and MRC and his strong

dedication to natural resources using science-based, objective discipline will be missed. David Hoopes presented Kit with a handcrafted gift, acknowledging Kit as a source of information and support over the years. Kit expressed his gratitude to the MRC, saying that he has bragged about how great it has been to be on the MRC; he added that it is a good way to engage in many issues and learn a lot.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55am

Submitted by Helen Venada

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 20, 2013, 8:45-10:45am
Islanders Bank Community Meeting Room
Friday Harbor WA**

Members Present: John Aschoff (Chair), Laura Arnold, Barbara Bentley, Michael Durland, David Loyd, Barbara Marrett

Members Absent: Rene Beliveau, Gregg Dietzman, Johannes Krieger, Patty Miller (County Council Liaison to MRC), Jim Slocomb, Billie Swalla, Jonathan White, Tina Whitman

Staff: Linda Lyshall, Helen Venada

Guests:

Marta Branch, Orcas Island
Kathleen Dolsen, Common Sense Alliance
Phil Green, The Nature Conservancy
Laura Jo Severson

Upcoming Meetings/Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
3/21-3/22	NW Straits Commission Retreat	Padilla Bay	9am-5pm
4/3	MRC Retreat/regular meeting	FH House, San Juan Room	9:30am-4:30pm
4/20	Earth Day Event	Lopez Village	3-5pm

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The **non-quorum** meeting was called to order by Chair John Aschoff at 8:45am.

Citizen comments: Laura Jo Severson reported on what she had learned about the McDuffie Island coal terminal on her recent visit to Mobile, Alabama. She said the coal export/import terminal, developed in the 1980's, is the largest in the world, covering some 20 acres of sea and land. Laura Jo expressed concern for the environmental impacts that can be attributed to the large volumes of coal being handled and the damage done by the coal dust releases. She said that Mobile Bay fishing is closed three-quarters of the time to allow coal-carrying barges to pass. Barbara Bentley added that effects of an coal spill in the early 1900's off Victoria, B.C. are still being felt.

Stewardship Network report: Barbara Marrett said that Good Stewardship Award nominations are due this Friday! The "Finnies" will be awarded during the April 20th Earth Day celebration on Lopez Island. (Nomination forms and the agenda are available at <http://stewardshipsanjuans.org/>.) The third annual Procession of the Species to be held on Lopez Island and sponsored by the Lopez Island Conservation Corps will begin at 4pm in the Village; it celebrates the diversity of life on our planet. At 5:30pm there will be a potluck, music, booths, and awards at the Community Center. Barbara noted that this is an opportunity for informational displays.

Barbara Bentley commented that the Stewardship Network meetings seem to be San Juan Island-centric and Barbara Marrett added that it is difficult for other island groups to meet here. Discussion followed on possible other meeting venues and times as well as videoconferencing to other islands.

Barbara Marrett reminded everyone about the Green Village at the County Fair this year and the Canoe Journey to be held for the first time at historic English Camp on San Juan Island.

Science subcommittee report: Barbara Bentley said the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update is still waiting on availability of the inventory and characterization of local habitat report; she is a member of the technical advisory group that plan to review the consultant's version which is not out yet. There will be a meeting later today on Orcas Island.

Barbara reported that she is continuing to apply for 2014 funds with a proposal to provide (in the first of three years) a three-day training workshop for citizen science volunteers on the collecting and sampling of species at designated sites for the Marine Species Bank, Mussel Watch project, etc. using on-site instrumentation for basic analysis (pH, salinity, etc.). The second year would provide workshops for others (eg. tribes, other counties) to share information learned and to conduct a second collection at the same sites sampled in year one. In the third year, data would be handled in greater depth, including analysis of samples for the presence of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, for example; a two-day on-the-water workshop with field exercises led by trained citizen volunteers would be presented to decision makers, agencies, etc. Fully-trained “ambassadors” would then spread information into the community.

Barbara noted that all of this proposed work is based on “no net loss” regulation. She added that there is greater expense anticipated to allow for analysis of samples (a minimum of \$1,000 to \$1,500 each). Potential funding could come from the National Science Foundation (workshops), WA Department of Fish and Wildlife (supplies, equipment), and WA Department of Ecology. It was suggested that the tribes be brought in (particularly the Swinomish who are already doing such testing); other partners suggested were the SJC Economic Development Council, Islands Oil Spill Association, University of WA/Friday Harbor Labs. There was discussion on the MRC's role (with Northwest Straits Foundation as fiscal agent). Salary for a part-time project manager would be included in the proposed budget; funding for overhead is not included in the current budget and would need to be negotiated. The proposal will be part of the MRC Retreat agenda for April 3rd in relation to the Work Plan. It was recognized that citizen volunteers need assurance that their training is valued and that data will be utilized by agencies, etc. It was pointed out that the proposal is in line with ongoing water quality analysis in the county (e.g. with respect to stormwater runoff).

New members are needed for the science subcommittee!

Policy subcommittee update: Laura Arnold said the SMP is out according to the website but the policy subcommittee is also waiting to see the inventory and characterization report.

Executive subcommittee: Laura said that the information packet for new MRC members and others is in its final editing stage; further update will be available at the Retreat.

Chair's report: John said he and Jim Slocomb attended the workshop with the County Council that included review of the Open Meetings Act. He noted that there are now two vacancies on the MRC and that two memberships due to expire have been extended for 60 days. There was discussion on the process for member appointments. David Loyd emphasized that the make-up of the MRC membership works very well in the committee's role as an advisory board to the Council.

Marine Managers Workshop Summary: Linda Lyshall said she will send out a draft report soon and distributed copies of a draft evaluation of the workshop for today's review. Some of the comments and

suggestions discussed were that each segment of the day be wrapped up separately, rather than all at the end; that speakers be introduced; that the workshop be held for 2 days/1 night rather than over 3 days and 2 nights. It was agreed that break-out sessions are very important and productive and that a full report on the workshop should be presented to the County Council.

MRC Retreat: A draft agenda for the Retreat was distributed. John noted that specific information is required for Linda's contract with NWS. The primary focus of the Retreat will be the Work Plan and Annual Report. Patty Miller is expected to attend in the morning. The Marine Stewardship Area (MSA) Plan represents the long-range work plan and Laura pointed out that the MRC has tried to key its annual Work Plan to the priorities of the MSA Plan. There was discussion on the MSA Plan's ongoing implementation.

Citizen comments: Marta Branch introduced herself as a teacher at both public schools on Orcas Island. Her classes have included marine technology. Marta also works on tour boats. She tries to recruit students to get involved in local projects. Marta thanked the MRC for all it does to protect the marine environment...which, she added, is critically important. There was consensus from the MRC membership that those who attend meetings and who otherwise participate in MRC activities are much appreciated.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25am
Submitted by Helen Venada

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Annual Retreat Notes
Wednesday, April 3, 2013, 9:30am-4:30pm
Friday Harbor House, San Juan Conference Room
Friday Harbor WA**

Members Present: John Aschoff (Chair), Laura Arnold, Barbara Bentley, David Loyd, Barbara Marrett (pm), Patty Miller (am), Jim Slocomb, Tina Whitman

Members Absent: Rene Beliveau, Gregg Dietzman, Michael Durland, Johannes Krieger, Billie Swalla, Jonathan White

Staff: Linda Lyshall, Helen Venada

Guests:

Barbara Rosenkotter, Salmon Recovery Lead Entity Coordinator

(am only)

(pm only)

Ginny Broadhurst, Northwest Straits Initiative

Eric Eisenhardt, Soundwatch

Jack Cory, Island Guardian

Phil Green, The Nature Conservancy

Liz Illg

Lovel Pratt

Laura Jo Severson

Upcoming Meetings/Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
4/17	MRC regular meeting	Islanders Bank ,FH	8:45-10:45am
4/20	Earth Day Event	Lopez Village	3-5pm

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The Retreat meeting was called to order by Chair John Aschoff at 9:30am (**non-quorum**). John went over the agenda noting its narrow focus of identifying MRC priority work items for 2013-2014. He gave a briefing on related requirements of the Northwest Straits Commission (NWSC) contract and today's process. Linda Lyshall distributed copies of the "MRC 2012 Summary of Programmatic Actions" for a review of accomplishments to date. John led a discussion on criteria for prioritizing work items.

Patty Miller requested that Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) update work be added to the "Synergy with Other Work Plans" agenda item. She gave a quick run-down on MRC membership openings (4) and applications (6), requesting that today's work also include identifying needed skill sets of new members; she suggested that active commitment and ability to participate are also needed.

County Council Priorities: Patty discussed current County Council priorities for 2013 (handouts provided)...community conversations, hiring of a county manager, completing the solid waste system transition, and CAO implementation. She said that plans to improve relations include conducting workshops on current land use programs, development of grants process, review and update of fees-for-service policies, simplification of the SJC Code, update of the Code enforcement ordinance. Regional/state/federal issues include the coal export terminal and NOAA's no-go zone discussion (MRC role?). Council docket items include update of the transportation and economic elements of the

Comprehensive Plan and Shoreline Master Plan. It was noted that there is a 2007 draft of the economic element update. Council long-range goals, Patty said, are to continue to develop a capital improvement plan (none now for SJC), communications (outdated here), work on a capital facilities element plan, and, possibly, development of a separate rural element. Patty encouraged MRC alignment with the Council, for instance, in implementation of Marine Stewardship Area (MSA) Plan strategies. Part of this improved alignment is the active participation of a Council liaison to the MRC. Patty recommended review of the draft to the Code regarding member appointments and subcommittees. John said that further conversation on MRC roles and responsibilities would be helpful.

Patty said that she was personally very appreciative of the MRC's positive community process for developing the MSA Plan in 2006 and she suggested more such involvement and outreach. David Loyd added that local, state, and federal mandates are also MSA plan mandates. Laura Arnold said she has observed that budget constraints have had a negative impact on repeating outreach efforts. Patty suggested integrating messaging into other public issue meetings (eg. on transportation). David noted that there will be a summit on SJC plankton surveys this Saturday on Orcas Island.

Northwest Straits Commission: Ginny Broadhurst discussed the NWSC perspective on future funding; she said that despite a \$1.6 million budget now down to zero, the bottom-up organization is holding its own, using some Puget Sound recovery money. Projections for possible EPA funding were mentioned and Patty emphasized the importance of securing a long-term funding solution. She noted the efficacy and success of past forage fish work bundled together by all seven MRC's (p. 13 of handout, "NWSI Areas of Focus"). Copies of the letter announcing the RFP for 2013 MRC projects were distributed.

Local (private) fundraising potential was discussed. Ginny said that Island County's pigeon guillemot monitoring project, for instance, was co-sponsored by a local wine company. Examples of SJC's MRC successful public/private partnerships were noted: the derelict vessel recovery program and the fishing guide ad. The current oil spill preparedness grant is an example of bundled work (managed by the Northwest Straits Foundation). Tina said that work with shoreline landowners on nearshore protection in the event of a major oil spill is critical; clear, scientific information needs to part of the conversation to address current misinformation on preventing future armoring here.

Marine Managers Workshop Summary: Linda said a draft summary report on the workshop will be completed soon. Handouts were distributed on the emerging issues of ocean acidification (OA) and sea level rise (SLR), as well as oil spill prevention and response recommended actions. Linda said that Eric Swenson, of the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership and on the state's Blue Ribbon Panel Public Outreach and Education group on OA, will visit the MRC in mid-May to discuss ongoing strategies for public meetings. In brief discussion of the Panel's recommendations, it was pointed out that typical SJ Islanders' wonder if OA is really an issue here now. Regarding SLR, Tina Whitman said that Friends of the San Juans has funding for scientific technical team work on environmental policy and regulations review as well as outreach communication. As for SJC data, Tina said that inundation maps are being updated showing sensitive areas; preliminary data on shore type, exposure, geology, etc. are included as well as vulnerabilities and resiliencies of habitat (long-range planning needed), roads and other infrastructure and shoreline homes/businesses. Tina said that SJC has pockets of problems.

MRC History and Revisiting the Marine Stewardship Area Plan: Laura talked about the SJC resolution forming the MRC, its purpose (mission), and its roles. Resulting from the identified need for marine resource protection, restoration, and assessment, the Marine Stewardship Area (MSA) Plan was developed in 2007 and implementation of its top priorities, in alignment with salmon recovery

goals, is underway. Laura outlined MRC guidelines for membership, with diverse representation, skill sets and perspectives, transparency, and with an eye for constructive solutions. There was discussion of the MRC's role as the citizen's committee for salmon recovery in the context of a working model for elected officials/MRC relations.

Synergy with other Work Plans: Barbara Rosenkotter pointed out the MRC's work on the formal salmon recovery adaptive management plan update, noting that this is an opportunity to update the local SJC recovery chapter of the salmon recovery plan. There is no formal update process now, she said, and Laura pointed out the focus on protection not restoration. Barbara said there is funding for salmon recovery work to June of 2014. Laura suggested the MRC, as the salmon recovery citizens committee, craft a placeholder in the Work Plan (as a separate section?). Barbara said that Local Integrating Organization (LIO) work includes Tier 2 actions on major oil spill response and preparedness, runoff from the built environment, and shoreline armoring. She added that most of the nearshore actions are not being accomplished. John said there needs to be better communication between the LIO and the MRC. Barbara Bentley suggested the MRC work more closely with the citizens stormwater committee and ferry committee.

2013/2014 Priorities: Copies of the draft 2013 Work Plan, the overview of the MSA Plan, and Barbara Bentley's "Preparing for the Inevitable: Citizen science workshops to establish environmental baselines for 'no net loss'" were distributed. [Results of the prioritization exercise are appended to these notes.] Linda explained that the top three outreach and education work items (Marine Managers Workshop, Sound IQ, and Citizen Science workshop) will be forwarded as part of the NWSC's RFP. It was agreed to table the economic evaluation of marine resources (re preparedness for major oil spills, etc.) and ecosystem values and services study for later (by contract?).

MRC Representation on NWSC, NWS Foundation, and LIO Implementation Committee: It was agreed that assigning a representative and alternate be revisited after new MRC membership appointments are made (interviews underway now).

[NOTE: Barbara Marrett's appearance at 3:50pm constitutes a quorum for the rest of today's Retreat.] There was discussion on the limited advertising to recruit new MRC members; it was agreed that a wider net is advisable is needed. Selection guidelines were discussed (skill sets such as GIS, user groups including tribes, fishing interests, marine industry, etc.).

Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) 2013 Grant Round Timeline and Evaluation Criteria: Barbara Rosenkotter distributed copies of the draft Timeline and Scoring Criteria. David Loyd pointed out that the Priority Fish Use Regions map handed out represents one sampling protocol (Beamer & Fresh 2012).

Motion: Jim Slocomb moved, and Barbara Bentley seconded, that the Timeline and Scoring Criteria drafts be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

The Retreat ended at 4:30pm
Submitted by Helen Venada

MRC Notes: Meeting--Wednesday, April 17, 2013
Submitted by Marta Branch

Attending: Barbara Bentley, Laura Arnold, Patty Miller, Michael Durland, John Aschoff, Tina Whitman, David Loyd, Jim Slocomb

Citizens: Phil Green, Laura Jo Severson

Staff: Linda Lyshall, Marta Branch

Citizen Input:

Phil said that subtidal dive surveys are finally a go. These are funded by Sea Doc. Joe and Ken are looking at locations. There will be 100 surveys over a 10 year time period. Laura Jo said IOSA will conduct a drill on Lopez on May 11th. Tina said there will be monitoring of Sand Lance and volunteer training on May 11th (11:30-2PM). Field work will be conducted this summer for smelt (8-10 days) and next winter for sand lance (8-10 days). FSJ is leading this effort with SRFB funds. Dan Penttila, retired from WDFW, will be assisting with the training. Tina and Barbara Bentley met last week to discuss including a forage fish spawn habitat survey element to the citizen monitoring training she is working on for MRC/oil spill preparedness. Dan Doty is the WDFW contact on that workshop. The need to ensure integration with existing forage fish assessment work was noted.

Approval of Minutes for 3/20: Minimal changes—Laura Jo Severson, Barbara B. motion/ Laura, 2nd to accept minutes

Reports

Patty Miller – MRC Liaison to Council

- MRC Appointments: Patty said the council is doing a final touch on committee rules. The chairs of committees will get copies; thanks to John for the comments already received on this—well done. Compliments to MRC chair who did interviews of all applicants—including last minute applicant. Might take action on appointments next week. People can still apply if they want.
- Budget Subcommittee: Grants Policy being discussed. Not sure if new council or old council will take action on “Grants” policy.

Subcommittees

- **Science**—Barbara B.
Technical Advisory Committee not included in current SMP review.
Grant Proposal for citizen science workshops: Version given to DFW—Dan Doty and Rebecca Post; they agreed to conduct a pilot workshop in September to include water, sediment and tissue sampling.
Ultimate proposal will include sampling forage fish eggs.
- **Policy** —**Tina**
Policy subcommittee will look at SMP at a subcommittee meeting on My 15th after the MRC meeting. Joint mtg with science and policy subcommittee to review latest draft of

the inventory and characterization report as well as the draft ordinance.

Staff—Linda

Ginny has been contacted, says that 65-70K will likely be available for next year for MRC, beginning July 1st.

Chair—no report

**Retreat Summary/Work plan—
Sound IQ**

Sound IQ.—(predecessor is Bellingham City IQ). Island County completed this with NW Straits. Has interactive natural resource mapping tool. Implementation will be with Suzanne Schull and Ann Stark from City of Bellingham. Discussion on need to ensure project is integrated with county GIS.

MRC Outreach Work—Linda

Linda said that Marta will be conducting some outreach for the MRC.

Citizen Input—none

Barbara: move start time back to 8:30 because of ferry schedule. Approved by group.

Adjourn: 10:20 AM

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 1, 2013, 8:30-10:30am
Islanders Bank Community Meeting Room
Friday Harbor WA**

Members Present: John Aschoff (Chair), Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Rene Beliveau, Barbara Bentley, Michael Durland, Johannes Krieger, Barbara Marrett, Patty Miller (County Council Liaison to MRC), Jim Slocumb, Tina Whitman

Members Absent: Gregg Dietzman, David Loyd, Billie Swalla, Jonathan White

Staff: Lisa Brown (interim Coordinator), Helen Venada

Guests:

Marta Branch, MRC Education/Outreach contractor
Alan Chapman, Lummi Natural Resources / Local Integrating Organization (LIO)
Barbara Rosenkotter, Lead Entity Coordinator for Salmon Recovery
Laura Jo Severson, Red Cross / Islands Oil Spill Association (IOSA)

Presentation: “Salmon Update” by Jack Giard, Pacific Salmon Commission

Upcoming Meetings/Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
5/15	MRC regular meeting	Islanders Bank, Friday Harbor	8:30am-10:30am
5/18	FH Labs Open House	FHL	11am-4pm

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The meeting was called to order by Chair John Aschoff at 8:30am. John introduced and welcomed new MRC member, Greg Ayers.

Citizen comments: Marta Branch said that her marine technology class at Orcas High School has been studying stormwater runoff this year and viewed a film showing rainwater roof runoff at Ray's Pharmacy in Eastsound. Ray explained to the class that this runoff is not “treated” by the Eastsound constructed wetlands system. Students have been measuring volumes and doing other calculations of the runoff and will do a presentation in their Thursday afternoon class which will be attended by Rick Hughes and Ed Hale; students will provide their suggestions to the county representatives.

Laura Jo Severson noted that boating season opens this weekend. On May 11th there will be a booming exercise and on May 18th the Sheriff's Office will sponsor an emergency drill/response on Orcas Island; Laura Jo said that all are welcome to attend.

Meeting minutes: Minutes of the April 17, 2013 were approved with corrections.

Membership update: Patty Miller said there will be additional discussion on membership as well as a public hearing on business rules and rules of order for advisory committees at the May 7th County Council meeting. Terms of service limits and a fundraising follow-up will be included in the topics to be discussed. Patty suggested that the MRC send a briefing to the Council to keep them aware of planned proposals.

Education / Outreach update: Marta Branch reported that the recent Procession of the Species parade on Lopez Island was subjected to cold, stiff winds but was still a great event. She said that Johannes Krieger received one of the Stewardship Awards for his work on the raingarden in Friday Harbor.

Salmon Recovery grant round update: Barbara Rosenkotter said that the timeline for project selection is as follows:

- June 5th MRC meeting and June 6th: project presentations and site visits
- July 3rd MRC meeting: Technical Advisory Group (TAG) scoring and comments
- July 17th MRC meeting: final scoring and adoption of final ranked list by MRC as Citizens Advisory Group; quorum required!

Barbara said that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will do a presentation on fish work windows at the June 19th MRC meeting.

Northwest Straits Commission (NWS): John, still serving as a fill-in representative to the NWS, said he cannot attend the next meeting in Coupeville. Greg Ayers offered to attend as an alternate.

Presentation: “Salmon Update”

Jack Giard said that he and Alan Chapman are the longest standing members of the Pacific Salmon Commission. He pointed out that the major salmon force throughout the San Juans is from the Fraser River. The Commission recently finished a series of meetings and is still in flux over allowable catch forecasts. Jack distributed copies of the 2013 Fraser River Sockeye and Pink salmon forecast tables and a Summary of 2013 vs 2012 WA Coho forecasts. The forecast tables list historical average run sizes from the various rivers feeding the Fraser River during the four timing groups as well as probability numbers of returns and run size. Jack said that the 2010 sockeye run from the Fraser was the largest ever...30 million fish.

Jack said that a lengthy (started in 2009) and very costly (\$25 million) study by the Canadian government looked for the “smoking gun” affecting runs from the Fraser (such as commercial overharvest, salmon pens, treaty overharvest, spawn mortality); the conclusion was that there is no smoking gun although there are issues of concern in Georgia Strait such as the brown slime bloom that is toxic to smolts and copepods. Harrison River runs are doing the best; they're not staying in Georgia Strait. Jack explained that 50% probability figures are used to manage fisheries. The percentage of Fraser River successful spawners has been dropping; the cause is unknown and may be temporary.

Jack said one question is how to harvest Pinks without impacting Sockeye; one idea is to hold up the harvest until the end of summer or early September. 2012 saw half a billion Pink smolts going out; Pinks spend two years in the ocean, not four years like Sockeye. Jack noted that Canada is now acknowledging that lots of fish coming through are from the U.S. (identified by genetic studies). Jack reported that in the past there has not been funding for a test fishery but complete testing (stock fun size, genetics, source, etc.) will be done this year. The lowest rate ever of salinity was recorded last year in Puget Sound and Georgia Strait; does this impact smolt survival?

Alan Chapman said that something is happening and it's not all land-based; some possibilities he noted were changes in hydrology and climate. He added that the Puget Sound Partnership is putting out a report on the state of Puget Sound which is a similar resource as that from Nanaimo, B.C. Tina Whitman said this report is a reminder of how complex the systems and issues are. Jack said that some of the very best biologists in the world are on the Commission and there is a lot of great information on

the website.

Update on comments on Shoreline Master Program (SMP): Copies were distributed of the draft MRC letter to the SJC Planning Commission, providing comments on the SMP designation maps and land use regulations. Tina discussed the details and said there is no schedule yet for moving the draft maps and regulations to the Planning Commission; there is a public hearing next week. There will be a joint meeting of the MRC's Policy and Science subcommittees following the next regular meeting on the 15th. Tina said the Policy subcommittee met last week to look at new versions of the inventory and characterization reports and proposed regulations. The draft MRC letter to the PC adds no new comments but reorganizes them and packages in older related MRC documents to serve as a placeholder for the PC. Ongoing issues Tina mentioned are armoring and mitigation. There was discussion following Greg Ayers' question on potential impacts of proposed changes. Tina said that a cumulative impact study and a review of process is being done by consultants. Patty suggested cc'ing the Council, Shireene Hale, and Colin Maycock on the letter and forming a subcommittee to meet with Colin regarding sequencing, etc. Colin has been invited to the next MRC meeting.

Motion: Jim Slocomb moved, and John Aschoff seconded, that the letter be sent with today's minor edits. The motion passed with Johannes Krieger abstaining and Barbara Marrett not present.

Patty suggested that this is a good time to reinstate the MRC's practice of having individual members meeting casually with Council members, especially newly-elected ones (e.g. to request their views on the MRC's role).

There was discussion on whether to schedule MRC regular meetings once instead of twice a month and using videoconferencing to include more people from other islands. The discussion was tabled to the next meeting's agenda.

Marta said that she will attend the upcoming Wildflower Festival (5/11) and FHL Open House (5/18) to represent the MRC. She will also write a press release on the Spring Street raingarden.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am
Submitted by Helen Venada

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 15, 2013, 8:30-10:30am
Islanders Bank Community Meeting Room
Friday Harbor WA**

Members Present: Jim Slocomb (Vice Chair), Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Barbara Bentley, Michael Durland, David Loyd, Barbara Marrett, Ken Sebens, Tina Whitman

Members Absent: John Aschoff, Rene Beliveau, Gregg Dietzman, Johannes Krieger, Patty Miller, Jonathan White

Staff: Linda Lyshall (acting interim Coordinator), Helen Venada

Guests:

Marta Branch, MRC Education/Outreach contractor
Robyn Du Pre, Northwest Straits Foundation
Phil Green, The Nature Conservancy, Yellow/Low Islands
Laura Jo Severson, Red Cross / Islands Oil Spill Association (IOSA)

Presentation: “Mooring Buoy Pilot Project” by Tina Whitman

Upcoming Meetings/Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
6/5	MRC regular meeting	Islanders Bank, Friday Harbor * * * * *	8:30am-10:30am

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Jim Slocomb at 8:30am.

Citizen comments: Laura Jo Severson invited everyone to the oil spill drill this Saturday; IOSA will lead the booming practice across Barlow Bay. The Red Cross and Orcas Fire Department will participate in a joint drill on Orcas to respond to a mock bridge collapse and fire situation. Laura Jo brought in fliers promoting the Friday Harbor Sailing Club cruises planned for Memorial Day weekend and June 22nd; possible viewing of humpback whales is one of the attractions.

Tina Whitman announced that the Friends of the San Juans has a grant through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board to remove groupings of in-water creosote pilings; 190 of such derelict structures have been mapped including some land-based ones. She requested call-ins from those who care to participate in the cleanup.

Meeting minutes: Minutes of the May 1, 2013 were approved as read.

Linda Lyshall attended today's meeting briefly in Lisa Brown's absence to distribute printed materials. Linda explained the transition to her new position with the San Juan Islands Conservation District; she said she will continue to work on community engagement on behalf of the MRC for oil spill preparedness in the Islands. The new Coordinator position with the MRC will be 3/4-time, Linda said, as will the LIO Coordinator position. Everyone thanked Linda for her excellent service to the MRC.

Laura Arnold suggested that the MRC add to next meeting's agenda review of the MRC's ongoing work plan projects and other commitments.

Science subcommittee report: Barbara Bentley said she participated in a conference call with Dan Doty of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and with Rebecca Post of the Department of Ecology to discuss plans for the water quality testing training workshops related to possible oil spills here. The agencies will provide supplies as well as representatives to train volunteers at the September 20th and 21st workshops to be held either on San Juan or Orcas Island. Barbara has been distributing recruitment questionnaires at recent science lectures on all the islands and has received good response. She noted that she also learned how to sort fish eggs out of sand. Tina added that the ongoing forage fish training will be included in the September workshops.

Policy subcommittee update: Tina said that the MRC's letter to the Planning Commission on Shoreline Master Program updates has been submitted and the Commission is scheduled to deliberate on May 30th. The MRC Policy/Science subcommittee will hold a joint meeting later today.

Tina asked if new member orientation materials have been presented to Greg Ayers.

Education / Outreach update: Marta Branch said her contract with the MRC began with outreach tasks and she is now also helping with this transition time since Linda's departure. She has attended recent events on the Islands representing the MRC, including a Wildflower Festival; Nick Teague of the Bureau of Land Management was also in attendance and agreed to help distribute MRC outreach materials through BLM activities. Marta is working on a press article on the Friday Harbor Spring Street rain garden which she will bring to the MRC for vetting before release. She will also work with Barbara Bentley to promote the fall water quality training workshops and suggested Camp Orkila on Orcas as a possible venue.

Marta said that several of her marine technology students from Orcas High School will attend the Open House at Friday Harbor Labs this weekend. Marta is also updating the MRC webpage. Her cellphone number is 317-6491 for anyone with ideas or suggestions.

Presentation: “Mooring Buoy Pilot Project”

Tina Whitman explained that the Friends of the San Juans (FSJ) pilot is funded in part by a cost-share grant from the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board. She said that the MRC as San Juan County's citizens advisory group for salmon recovery has been interested in the issues of eelgrass bed protection and possible impacts from mooring buoys, particularly in the highly productive forage fish spawning nurseries. Eelgrass beds also help to stabilize soils and provide an excellent carbon sink. As of July 2009, the number of buoys and floats mapped in the San Juans totals 1,914; Tina said that the WA Department of Natural Resources (DNR) estimates that one-third of all the buoys in inland waters of the state are in San Juan County. DNR buoy registrations totaled 447 in the county as of 2010 and 165 of the buoy permits in San Juan County are linked to DNR registrations. WDFW's Hydraulic Permit Approval process recorded 340 buoys in San Juan County in 2010. Tina said the number of US Army Corps of Engineers buoy permits in the county is unknown.

Tina said that mooring buoy impacts can result from improper site location of installation (e.g. over eelgrass beds, herring spawning areas); direct burial by anchoring; type of anchor used to float the system. She pointed out that the cumulative effects from having several improper moorings in San Juan waters can be significant. In terms of remediation, Tina said it is relatively easy and inexpensive to relocate buoys out of eelgrass beds, for instance. The 2005 Betcher and Williams study indicated

that two-thirds of the randomly-selected buoys surveyed in San Juan County were located in eelgrass and two-thirds of those were of a design negatively impacting the eelgrass. Betcher and Williams' findings suggested a best-designs list for better anchoring for least impact.

FSJ's current pilot project includes development and distribution of outreach information on the issue; removal of unwanted buoys and floats; design and installation replacements or relocation outside of eelgrass beds; and work with agencies, installers, boaters, and the public to improve the situation. The project has identified forage fish and herring spawn in the proximity of eelgrass, has provided assistance with site review, design and installation; and, has initiated a buoy upgrades assessment along with an "anchor out of eelgrass" education campaign to encourage more eelgrass and other resource protection.

Tina said that the most expensive full upgrade could cost \$3600, which, under the current grant, includes cost share and permitting funding; most upgrades are considerably cheaper (e.g. to remove chain or put in a float). Local installers are hired for these upgrades. Tina suggested that the role of the MRCs continues to be to help disseminate information on voluntary no anchoring guidelines (on state/BLM/Land Bank properties). One messaging tool is the use of the regionally-developed MRC symbol for the no anchoring program.

Key findings of the pilot project, to date, are that the current permitting system discourages compliance; contains no reinforcement of existing guidelines; and, creates a perceived threat of enforcement risk in the range of zero to very low. Tina reiterated that many people who are concerned with healthy habitat have already done the upgrades. Overall, she said, the permit system presents a lost opportunity to positively influence buoy design and location while reducing negative impacts. Buoys and environmental protection are compatible, Tina emphasized and she noted that better boater outreach and agency coordination are needed.

There was discussion on how to make upgrades more user-friendly, affordable and effective in environmental protection. The MRC also discussed its role in outreach, as well as coordination with that of other groups. One question was whether alternative moorings were needed for transient anchoring (eg. at Blind Bay on Lopez, an important spawning area). Drag anchoring by larger boats was noted as reason for more education on how to anchor correctly.

Northwest Straits Foundation update: Robyn du Pre, the Foundation's Executive Director since last fall, said that she is visiting all the MRCs to make contact and gather input. The Foundation is hosting a conference in Bellingham this November to review vision and goals of the organization. Robyn is working on updating the scope and scale of projects, professionalizing Foundation work, and attempting to secure long-range regional funding for the MRCs. She added that the concept of a new Board of Directors is being proposed soon to the Northwest Straits Commission and requested that MRC members send in any suggestions for potential Board candidates. Part of the Foundation's outreach is to suggest fundraising strategies to MRCs.

Robyn discussed proposals for community oil spill preparedness; she'll be working with six of the seven MRCs to develop project contracts with limited funding for logistics and promotion planning. Six day-long community workshops throughout the region are planned for this year (fall through January) and will be repeated next year as well. Representatives of agencies, tribes, community safety groups, and industry are developing curriculum to identify who is responsible for what tasks and whether other engagement opportunities like training are available. There was discussion about contracting with San Juan Islands Conservation District (including during this transition time for the

MRC) and the level of MRC future engagement. The question was tabled to next meeting's agenda for more discussion.

Citizen comments: Marta Branch provided a follow-up to her marine technology class at Orcas High School where students have been studying stormwater runoff. The class did a presentation which was attended by the manager of Ray's Pharmacy in Eastsound and Ed Hale of the county's Utilities Department Stormwater Program. Students presented their design for a bioswale project. The Prune Alley (a county road) run-off project is moving ahead. Marta pointed out that the Friday Harbor Spring Street raingarden was used as a model in her classes.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18am
Submitted by Helen Venada

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 5, 2013, 8:30-10:30am
Islanders Bank Community Meeting Room
Friday Harbor WA**

Members Present: John Aschoff Chair), Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Rene Beliveau, Barbara Bentley, David Loyd, Barbara Marrett, Jim Slocomb, Jonathan White, Tina Whitman

Members Absent: Michael Durland, Johannes Krieger, Ken Sebens

Staff: Linda Lyshall (acting interim Coordinator), Marta Branch (MRC Education/Outreach contractor), Helen Venada

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
6/19	MRC regular meeting	Islanders Bank, Friday Harbor * * * * *	8:30am-10:30am

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Aschoff at 8:40am. Today's regular meeting of the MRC will be brief, to be followed by presentations on the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) project proposals under consideration for possible funding.

Linda Lyshall explained that there are two active MRC sub-contracts: Marta Branch is working on outreach and education efforts and Jim Slocomb has been developing Sound IQ. Marta briefly outlined her tasks, including the distribution of MRC materials at recent community events. Jim said that Sound IQ will be up and running in July.

Linda said that the oil spill contract through the Department of Ecology and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) for \$2700 will cover two water quality sampling/testing training workshops related to potential oil spills here. [The agencies will provide supplies as well as representatives to train volunteers at the September 20th and 21st workshops to be held on San Juan or Orcas Island.] Linda will continue to be the regional coordinator through the Northwest Straits Foundation to complete the project.

Jonathan White announced that he is resigning his position as an MRC member as on the end of July; he will be on board to complete the SRFB scoring effort.

Rene Beliveau said that the SJC Community Planning and Development Department will continue to support the MRC during the current transition period. Linda added that the Northwest Straits Commission contract extension will support the Coordinator position now being advertised.

John led the MRC in thanking both Jonathan and Linda for their years of dedication and creative energy.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52am.
Submitted by Helen Venada

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 19, 2013, 8:30-10:30am
Islanders Bank Community Meeting Room
Friday Harbor WA**

Members Present: John Aschoff (Chair), Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Rene Beliveau, Michael Durland, Johannes Krieger, Barbara Marrett, Tina Whitman

Members Absent: David Loyd, Barbara Bentley, Jim Slocomb

Staff: Brian Rader (Interim Coordinator), Helen Venada, Marta Branch, MRC Education/Outreach contractor

Guests:

Jamie Stephens (County Council Liaison to MRC)
Alan Chapman, Lummi Natural Resources / Local Integrating Organization (LIO)
Barbara Rosenkotter, Lead Entity Coordinator for Salmon Recovery
Laura Jo Severson, Red Cross / Islands Oil Spill Association (IOSA)
Susan Key, San Juan County, Shoreline Programs Coordinator
Phil Green, Nature Conservancy

Presentation: "HPA Work Window Presentation" by Randi Thurston, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date Event Location Time

7/3, MRC/TAG Meeting, Islanders Bank, Friday Harbor, 8:30am-10:30am
7/17, MRC-Salmon CAG Meeting, Islanders Bank, Friday Harbor, 8:30-10:30

* * * * *

Helen Venada initiated the minutes for this meeting but left early in the meeting due to not feeling well. Brian Rader continued taking the minutes for this meeting and prepared this report.

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Aschoff at 8:30am.

Citizen comments: None.

Idea was brought forward (Johannes Krieger) to look into whether it would be possible to record MRC meetings. A method for making these publicly available would need to be identified.

Meeting minutes: Minutes of the May 15, 2013 and June 5, 2013 meetings were approved.

Subcommittee reports:

- **Policy subcommittee:** Tina reported they met with Colin Maycock to talk about the Shoreline Master Program process. Laura indicated the Planning Commission was nearly done with their part in the SMP process & it would likely go before the County Council in September.
- **Outreach subcommittee:**
 - Stewardship Network: Attended a potluck for outgoing Stewardship Coordinator, Carrie Cooper. It was that the Conservation District and Friends of the San Juans are interested in folding the Stewardship Coordinator position into their organization to create a full time position. Ads for the part time position are in the on-line news sites. Idea was also made to combine this part-time position with the MRC portion of the MRC/LIO Coordinator position if this position is turned into two separate positions. There is currently \$5100/year for the Stewardship Coordinator position. Stewardship Network has a new position at the Green Village this year, opposite the wool barn. MRC will not be participating in the Green Village this year. Stewardship Network will be asking members to pay dues of \$50 to \$250/year as donations (as part of the Puget Sound Partnership/ECONET, they cannot charge for membership). Money is needed for overhead.
 - MRC staffed a booth (along with others) at the June 1 Farmer's Market.
 - Marta Branch staffed a table at the Orcas Farmer's Market. She requested more information on how interested people can apply for open positions on the MRC

Greg Ayers attended the Northwest Straits Commission meeting in Coupeville and gave a brief report.

René Beliveau reported that Community Development & Planning is making progress regarding finding a new Coordinator for the combined MRC/LIO position. He stated they have 10-12 applications, but staffing the position is dependent on the state budget getting approved. There is \$10,000 in interim funding through the San Juan County Council. Brian Rader is to act as the interim Coordinator until a permanent replacement is hired.

Northwest Straits Commission: MRC Representative to the Northwest Straits Commission.

Motion: John Aschoff nominated Greg Ayers to serve as the MRC member on the Northwest Straits Commission and the Northwest Straits Foundation. Nomination seconded by Barbara Marrett. The motion passed unanimously with Greg Ayers abstaining.

Membership discussion:

- John Aschoff indicated that he is not reapplying to the MRC. His term expires in June, extended to the end of July by the council.
- Two terms, Jim Slocum and Michael Durland, expired in February, but have been extended through end of July. Both indicated they have reapplied.
- Kit Rawson's MRC seat is vacant. MRC indicated that they requested the seat remain vacant for a tribal representative.
- Barbara Marrett and Tina Whitman's seats are also up in June, but extended through July.

- Jamie Stephens indicated that the new term limits are for a maximum of 2 terms, unless no one else applies for the seat. He indicated that resolving the membership issue is a high focus for the County Council.

Presentation: “HPA Work Window Rule Making Process” by Randi Thurston, Protection Division Manager, Habitat Program, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife:

Randi indicated WDFW is updating rules to achieve statewide consistency in their implementation. Hydraulic Permit Approval is needed for “construction or performance of work that will use, divert, obstruct or change the natural flow or bed of waters of the state” and for “protection of fish life”. Fish life applies to all species in all stages of development. Randi reviewed the various types of permits (standard, expedited, emergency and pamphlet) as well as the requirements for each, the processing time and the length of time the permits are valid. The permit is not limited to work below the ordinary high water level, but is applicable to any activity that will use, divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow or bed. Randi reviewed the steps involved in making an HPA application (general plans, complete plan for hydraulic work, complete plan for protecting fish, compliance with SEPA, payment of fee (or exemption), application signed & dated), and reviewed the conditions under which WDFW can deny a permit, and the projects that WDFW cannot deny (emergency, expedited, chronic danger, pamphlets). WDFW does not issue after-the-fact permits. Randi also reviewed the limitations that WDFW has on the conditions they place on permits they issue (must be reasonable and related to the project, cannot optimize conditions for fish life, can’t require mitigation out of proportion to proposed project).

Discussion on Randi Thurston’s presentation followed:

- Randi acknowledged that the HPA rules are outdated & need updating. She also said this process is contentious & long.
 - 3 versions have been completed with comments received each time
 - Meeting now with interested parties
 - Working on version 4
 - Planning to release version 4 in the fall with EIS
 - Required to include small business/economic impact statement
 - Following release, there will be a 90-day comment period and 6 meetings around the state
 - Want adaptive management & how to measure effectiveness of rules (if the permits are conditioned properly & conditions followed, do they protect fish life?)
 - Focus is on bulkheads and water crossing structures (culverts & bridges)
 - Regarding bulkheads: SFRs have ability to request bulkhead & construct 6-foot waterward of OHWM, trying to get these installed above OHWM. Randi indicated that WDFW knows they are losing intertidal habitat.
- Tina Whitman indicated that WDFW has not denied an HPA since 1945, when they started issuing them. Also, there have been few site visits of projects by WDFW during the past decade.

- Susan Key said she is looking at bulkhead permits in San Juan County as part of her job as Shoreline Stewardship Coordinator. Susan indicated that WDFW staff need to visit sites pre and post-project.
- Tina Whitman said that earlier, on site conversations between County, WDFW and homeowners would result in a big improvement in outcomes.
- Laura Arnold pointed out that it still falls to County to have and enforce the permitting rules.
- Randi Thurston said they would look at work window study sent by MRC. She said work windows are usually based on spawning times, but more attention may be needed to timing of juvenile salmon migration. WDFW knows fish including salmon are in the nearshore when work windows are open. There is science to show impact driving larger diameter steel piling can cause injury or death to fish in the project area and the question is then when are salmon large enough to move out of the area to escape harm from this activity. When fish are present, risk is increased. We need to ensure the science supports more restrictive work windows because more restrictive timing may affect the state's economy . WDFW staff does have the ability to alter work windows for specific projects or locations to protect fish life.
- Barbara Rosenkotter indicated that fish presence is shaped like a bell curve and stressed the importance of protecting fish when the numbers were at their peak. Small juvenile salmonids cannot be offshore at early life stage.

There was no citizen input at the end of the meeting.

The MRC will convene again at the 7/3 MRC/TAG meeting at 8:30 am at Islander's Bank.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Minutes submitted by Brian Rader.

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 3, 2013, 8:30-10:30am
Islanders Bank Community Meeting Room
Friday Harbor WA**

Members Present: John Aschoff (Chair), Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Michael Durland, Barbara Marrett, Ken Sebens, Barbara Bentley

Members Absent: Jim Slocomb, Rene Beliveau, Johannes Kreiger, Tina Whitman

Staff: Brian Rader (Interim Coordinator), Marta Branch, MRC Education/Outreach contractor

Guests:

Jamie Stephens (County Council Liaison to MRC)

Kim Sundberg

Barbara Rosenkotter, Lead Entity Coordinator for Salmon Recovery

Susan Key, San Juan County, Shoreline Programs Coordinator

Alan Chapman, Lummi Natural Resources / Local Integrating Organization (LIO)

Laura Jo Severson, Red Cross / Islands Oil Spill Association (IOSA)

Phil Green, Nature Conservancy

Lovel Pratt

Presentations:

“Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery: A Review of Scoring and Feedback from the Technical Advisory Group”, Barbara Rosenkotter.

“Derelict Vessel Program: Follow-up of the Results from Last Year and a Preview of Upcoming Activity and Needs”, Joanruth Baumann

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date Event Location Time

7/17, MRC-Salmon Citizen’s Advisory Group Meeting, Islanders Bank, Friday Harbor, 8:30-10:30

* * * * *

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Aschoff at 8:36am.

Citizen comments: None.

John Aschoff announced that David Loyd has resigned from the MRC due to some health concerns. John thanked him for his years of service, wishing him a speedy and complete return to health.

Meeting minutes: John Aschoff brought to the MRC’s attention an email from Russel Barsh to Helen Venada regarding the May 15th minutes, which were approved at a previous MRC meeting. Rather than changing the May 15th minutes, Russel’s comments are included without edit below, and are now part of the public record.

"Helen,

I have a correction to make to the May 15 minutes, which refer, in the concluding paragraph, to a bioremediation installation at Ray's pharmacy in Eastsound. Marta Branch and her students were involved, but the students were supervised by Nathan Hodges of KWIAHT; the design was developed by Nathan with the students for that site and was not based on the Spring Street rain garden; the design and installation were wholly funded by the Captain Planet Foundation through KWIAHT; and the design process was preceded by six laboratory sessions in contaminant chemistry and mycology by myself and Madrona Murphy that were funded by State Farm Youth Advisory Board through KWIAHT.

It is misleading for the MRC Minutes to omit any mention of KWIAHT or the funders. I trust that the Minutes will be corrected before they become a part of the public record.

Thank you!

Russel."

Minutes of the June 19, 2013 meetings were approved unanimously.

Subcommittee reports:

- **Science Subcommittee:** Barbara Bentley talked about her effort to work with the Ecological Society of America to organize a nationwide data quality review system for non-peer reviewed science generated by the citizen science process. She plans to attend the October 5 Ecological Society of America meeting in Minneapolis, MN to talk about her proposal to develop criteria to rate data sets. There was acknowledgement that there will be financial needs for administration and the rating process. Funding would be independent of the San Juan County MRC.
- **Policy and Executive Subcommittees:** Laura Arnold indicated that these committees have not met since the last MRC meeting. She indicated that the Policy Subcommittee will need to meet in August to review and provide comments on the Shoreline Master Program update proposal as it proceeds to council review.
- **Northwest Straits Commission:** Greg Ayers attended the Northwest Straits Foundation meeting on 6/20, and Northwest Straits Commission teleconference call on 6/28. The Northwest Straits Foundation approved a reorganization to open up board positions for people who are not on the Commission. This allows MRCs to propose/nominate members on the Foundation. The Commission phone call was primarily a series of reports by the various MRCs.
- **Outreach Subcommittee:** Barbara Marrett indicated that 6 applications have been received for the Stewardship Network Coordinator position. Barbara Bentley suggested that the Stewardship Network should work harder to work with groups on islands other than San Juan Island. Barbara Marrett clarified where funding for the Stewardship Network comes from. Current funding is from the Puget Sound Partnership. Previously, the MRC and Lead Entity contributed funding. The Stewardship Network is currently asking for voluntary donations from its membership base to fund administration.

Membership Discussion: Jamie Stephens reported that the San Juan County Council has set a deadline of July 12 for applications to be received by the County Council for membership in the MRC. John Aschoff reminded the group that his resignation is effective August 1. The MRC will need a new chair by that time. Laura Arnold agreed to review the 'draft' MRC history document and work with John Aschoff & Brian Rader to finalize the document for distribution to the new County Council and other interested parties.

LIO Discussion: Laura Arnold asked about today's agenda topics and MRC representation on the LIO committee. Barbara Rosenkotter indicated that the MRC requested 2 representatives, but no one has been attending. The primary reps were Steve Revella and Gregg Dietzman, both of whom have resigned from the MRC. The alternates were John Aschoff and Barbara Marrett. They have been unable to attend. Laura indicated she will attend today's LIO meeting and consider volunteering. Idea was put forth to incorporate an LIO update as a standard agenda item.

Presentation: "Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery: A Review of Scoring and Feedback From the Technical Advisory Group", Barbara Rosenkotter

Barbara Rosenkotter reviewed the scoring and comments provided by the Salmon Recovery Technical Advisory Group for each of the 5 projects under consideration for funding. Written scoring and comment summaries were provided to all members of the MRC. MRC members will perform scoring and final ranking as the Salmon Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) during the next MRC meeting on July 17th. The MRC will need a quorum for the July 17th meeting.

Presentation: "Derelict Vessel Program: Follow-up of the Results From Last Year and a Preview of Upcoming Activity and Needs", Joanruth Baumann

Joanruth Baumann reviewed the activities of the San Juan County Derelict Vessel Program activities in the past year with a focus on providing an overview of the successful focus on Derelict Vessel Prevention. This represents a significant and difficult shift from recovering vessels that have already sunk or are sinking to focusing on vessels with a high potential to become derelict or sink.

During the pilot year of this program, more than 38 problem vessels were dealt with - 21 of them in China Cove (the shallow water anchorage on the northwest side of the Port of Friday Harbor Marina). Many boats were found to be abandoned and were removed from the water. Some boats had elderly owners who needed help repairing, moving or selling their boats. Two boats had individuals with outstanding arrest warrants squatting on board. The owner of one vessel had died.

The first year's test of the Derelict Vessel Prevention Program demonstrated pluses and minuses.

On the plus side:

- There were zero sinkings in the winter storms this year, when three or four is normal. Joanruth attributes this directly to having a Derelict Vessel Prevention Program that targets and acts on the obvious, high risk derelict vessels before they sink.
- At a minimum the following were prevented from entering the marine waters of San Juan County:
 - 240 gal of fuel,
 - 25 qts oil,
 - 12 qts caustic chemicals,

- 3 fishing nets,
- 60 cu ft Styrofoam blocks,
- paint, tools, cushions, batteries, drugs, etc.
- 2 criminals with outstanding arrest warrants were found squatting on abandoned boats. These individuals were taken into custody by law enforcement officers.
- Local and state agencies worked cooperatively and successfully.
- Law enforcement was engaged for the first time in a long time in vessel enforcement issues.
- A county vessel emergency process has been developed by proxy.
- Managing derelict vessels before they sink is comparatively very inexpensive – an average of \$263/vessel (approximately \$10,000 was spent for the entire year on 38 vessels). The cost of raising and disposing of a single sunken vessel can easily total well over \$10,000.
- Our visible presence on the water last summer helped to motivate an increase in vessel registration renewals all over the harbors.

On the minus side:

- There is no vessel available for use by the program coordinator. This reduced the timeliness of response and limited the range of the coordinator's activities.
- There was limited legal enforcement of violations to state law, which may blunt future compliance levels.
- The Derelict Vessel Program Coordinator was able to obtain 'start-up' funding for the Prevention Program from a few local organizations and private donors. There is no sustainable funding for this program. The first year 'start-up' funding is exhausted.

In its first year, the Derelict Vessel Prevention Program has demonstrated San Juan County can be proactive, preventing vessel sinking and abandonment. This reduces the pollution entering our marine waters and reduces the costs to the public. The program has a lot of positive community feedback and cooperation. This is clearly a program that strikes a chord with, and is appreciated by, the public.

In addition, our Derelict Vessel Prevention Program has won statewide recognition. The Puget Sound Partnership has suggested sponsoring San Juan County to teach other marine-oriented counties in Washington how to develop their own proactive programs to reduce pollution and cost associated with derelict vessels sound-wide. Additionally, The United States Coast Guard invited San Juan County, as the only individually-invited county in the state, to serve on their Derelict Vessel Task Force. Also, Washington Department of Natural Resources has borrowed some of our ideas and supports the spread of such programs throughout the state.

To continue doing this work, the San Juan County Marine Resources Committee asked Brian Rader to work with Joanruth Baumann to prepare a letter to the San Juan County Council requesting their help in identify an ongoing, renewable, source of funding for the San Juan County Derelict Vessel Program. The amount of funding that is being requested to support the Derelict Vessel Program:

- Derelict Vessel Removal Program: \$10,000 per year
- Derelict Vessel Prevention Program: \$10,000 per year

This level of funding should allow the Derelict Vessel Program to continue to operate in both of its important roles: removing vessels that have sunk or are in the process of sinking, and identifying vessels that pose a higher concern for sinking and managing them before they sink.

Citizen Input: Susan Key indicated that in her work as San Juan County Shoreline Programs Coordinator she has identified some instances where shoreline landowners would like technical and/or financial assistance in removing creosote wood that is associated with structures in the shoreline. She asked MRC members to think about how they might assist in creating a Derelict Creosote Removal program modeled after the Derelict Vessel Program.

The MRC will convene again at the 7/17 MRC meeting at 8:30 am at Islander's Bank.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:41 am.

Minutes submitted by Brian Rader.

DRAFT

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 17, 2013, 8:30-10:30am
Islanders Bank Community Meeting Room
Friday Harbor WA**

Members Present: John Aschoff (Chair), Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Michael Durland, Barbara Marrett, Jonathan White, Tina Whitman, Johannes Krieger, Rene Beliveau

Members Absent: Jim Slocomb, Ken Sebens, Barbara Bentley

Staff: Brian Rader (Interim Coordinator)

Guests:

Barbara Rosenkotter, Lead Entity Coordinator for Salmon Recovery
Phil Green, Nature Conservancy
Lovel Pratt

Presentations:

Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery: "Salmon Citizens Advisory Group convenes to provide scoring on the socioeconomic impacts of the proposals and determine a final ranked project list for submittal to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board," *Barbara Rosenkotter*

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date Event Location Time

8/7, MRC-Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group Meeting, Islanders Bank, Friday Harbor, 8:30-10:30

* * * * *

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Aschoff at 8:32 am.

Citizen comments: None.

Meeting minutes:

Minutes of the July 3, 2013 meetings were approved unanimously.

Subcommittee reports:

- **Policy and Executive Subcommittees:** Tina Whitman indicated MRC needs to have policy discussion regarding comments on the County's Shoreline Master Plan update.
- **Northwest Straits Commission:** Greg Ayers indicated he cannot attend the 7/26 Northwest Straits Commission meeting. Brian Rader indicated that he could attend.
- **Outreach Subcommittee:**
 - Barbara Marrett indicated that the Stewardship Network is conducting interviews for the Coordinator position.

- There was a discussion regarding pulling together a list of MRC accomplishments to include with the MRC history document.

Membership Discussion: Unless members that are subjected to the new term limits are extended or new members are appointed by the County Council, the MRC will consist of 6 members at the August meeting. Seven applications by new applicants have been received by the County Council: Robin Hirsch, Chuck Schietinger, Peg Manning, Laura Severson, Ed Kilduff, Phil Green and Thomas Temple. In addition, Jim Slocomb, Michael Durland, Barbara Marrett, and Tina Whitman have applied to renew their membership.

Coordinator Update: Rene Beliveau indicated that he has received initial comments back from the review team. He anticipates interviews will be conducted in August.

Action on Derelict Vessel Prevention Program Letter: Motion to approve letter and send to County Council made by Greg Ayers, seconded by Tina Whitman. Motion passed with unanimous approval of the members present.

Presentation: “Salmon Citizens Advisory Group convenes to provide scoring on the socioeconomic impacts of the proposals and determine a final ranked project list for submittal to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board,” *Barbara Rosenkotter*

Prior to the start of this session, Tina Whitman recused herself and left the room at 9:08 am due to a conflict of interest.

John Aschoff indicated that the MRC for the subsequent portion of the meeting is acting as the Citizen’s Advisory Group for salmon recovery.

Barbara Rosenkotter handed out project summaries, scoring sheets and conflict of interest rules. Barbara Rosenkotter reviewed the conflict of interest rules with the Citizen’s Advisory Group and asked if anyone else felt that they had any conflict of interest. Barbara Marrett indicated that her friend, Bill Watson is on the board of the Friends of the San Juans, who have a project up for review by the Citizen’s Advisory Group. Barbara Rosenkotter and the group felt this did not constitute a conflict of interest. No other conflicts were indicated by the group.

Each of the 5 projects were reviewed with scores and justifications given by each member of the Citizen’s Advisory Group. After tabulating, Barbara Rosenkotter posted the final scores for the Citizen’s Advisory Group and the Technical Advisory Group on the dry erase board. The final scores of the Citizen’s Advisory Group are presented below:

Project Proposals	Citizen’s Advisory Group Score (out of 10)
West Beach Creek Restoration, Phase 2	7.87
Reid Harbor Conservation Easement Acquisition	7.70

Restoration Feasibilities & Conceptual Design	6.59
Marine Survival of Chinook	4.98
Herndon Island Acquisition	3.69

The Citizen's Advisory Group then proceeded with a discussion of funding recommendations. Motion made by Barbara Marrett to fund the top 4 scoring proposals, but to not fund the Herndon Island Acquisition was seconded by John Aschoff. This motion passed with unanimous approval of the members present.

The MRC will convene again at the 8/7 MRC meeting at 8:30 am at Islander's Bank.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am with thanks given to departing members.

Minutes submitted by Brian Rader.

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
SALMON CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP
AND
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meetings Minutes
Wednesday, Sept 18, 2013, 8:30-10:30am
County Council Chambers
Friday Harbor, WA**

Members Present: Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Barbara Bentley, Rene Beliveau (left @ 9:30am), Phil Green, Johannes Krieger, Ken Sebens (left @ 10:00am), and Chuck Schietinger

Members Absent: Barbara Marrett

Staff: Marta Branch (Coordinator), Susan Key (Minutes)

Guests: John Aschoff, Eric Eisenhardt, Lovel Pratt, Kathy Dolsen (Westcott Bay Sea Farms) , Ray Glaze (TAG member), Kim Sundberg (TAG), Jacques White (Long Live the Kings), Jamie Stephens (SJC Council) Barbara Rosenkotter (Lead Entity Coordinator for Salmon Recovery), Laura Jo Severson

Convene: Salmon Citizens Advisory Group @ 8:33am by Marta Branch

Select Temporary Chair for This Meeting

Barbara Bentley volunteered

Presentations:

Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery: "Supplemental Request for Salmon Recovery Project Funding to Salmon Citizens Advisory Group," by *Barbara Rosenkotter*

Bids for the Blakely Island Forage Fish Habitat Restoration Project were significantly over the planned implementation budget. All bids were thoroughly reviewed but there have not been any cost savings identified. A reduction in scope was considered, but is not possible, as all elements must be implemented fully to achieve beach restoration objectives. Funding will come from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board with an additional \$6,000 coming from the landowner. Original project cost was \$117,715. The review subcommittee recommends supporting this request.

Action: Greg made a motion to approve this supplemental request for \$23,790 for salmon recovery project funding to salmon citizens advisory group; Chuck seconds; motion passed unanimously.

Long Live the Kings: "Chinook Monitoring and Adaptive Management," *Jacques White*

The presentation can be found on the Habitat Work Schedule site. You can find it via this link:

http://hws.ekosystem.us/?p=Page_89901fef-078a-47c8-9c7b-f3c0c259700a&sid=190

Click on the "Files and Links" tab; the presentation is under the "Monitoring and Adaptive Management" folder.

Q&A

Kim – are you still using MIRADI software? Jacques – yes. Barbara R – Bob Warinner (WDFW) has graciously agreed to operate it.

Barbara B – salmon recovery started in 2005; it seems monitoring should have started much earlier.

Jacques – agreed, but it is better late than never. Barbara R – NOAA did identify that the monitoring component was lacking, it took this long to develop the framework for monitoring.

Greg – how do you account for Canadian aspect? Jacques – NOAA did not take these factors into account when Chinook were listed, however there is an effort to partner with B.C.

Greg to Barbara R – where do we stand in the process? Barbara R – we are further along than most of the watersheds, however we must translate past work into the new framework and must get approval from CC to accept \$40K funding; local LIO process will bring stakeholders along; Jacques will give similar presentation to AOC meeting next week, as well as to County Council.

Marta – next steps?

Jacques – a lot of preliminary work has been done; **next step** is to go through viability analysis to determine status of salmon and what is needed to support them, what specific indicators to be used; training next month (need person in place); work done by spring.

What happens if you don't do this work? Salmon Recovery Council and SRFB will expect annual work plans in this format; if not, may not get funding for projects.

Greg – where will funding come from for the actual monitoring? Jacques – NOAA needs to step up, note that Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) money comes through NOAA.

Adjourn @ 9:29am: Salmon Citizens Advisory Group

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The MRC meeting was called to order by Barbara Bentley at 9:29 am.

Citizen Comments

John Aschoff - Lynn Barre (NOAA) and Brad Hansen (NMFS) will talk about the status of orca recovery Sept 18, 7pm @ The Whale Museum

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the July 17, 2013 meeting; Greg made a motion to approve, Laura seconded. No discussion; approved unanimously.

Notes for the September 4 MRC meeting (no quorum) were provided by Kathy Dolsen (Westcott Bay Sea Farms)

There were apparently no notes taken for the August 7 MRC meeting (no quorum), and there was no MRC meeting August 21, 2013.

Subcommittee and Staff Reports

- **Policy and Executive Subcommittees, Laura Arnold:** update and discussion regarding comments on the County's Shoreline Master Plan update. Subcommittee in flux due to unknown status of membership, therefore there has been no meeting.
- **Outreach Subcommittee:** Subcommittee in flux due to unknown status of membership, therefore there has been no meeting.
- **Science Subcommittee, Barbara Bentley:** Citizen Science 2-day Workshops, September 20-21, 2013 at Camp Orkila, Orcas Island. The hope is to continue these workshops over the next 3 years. Still have space available.

- **Staff, Marta Branch:**

- Helen Venada card was passed around for signatures; card was mailed 9-18-13.
- MRC membership update – Marta received an email from Sue Kollett asking if Marta would like to be on the interview team for new MRC appointments; have 11 applicants for 6 open positions.

Greg – may we see a list of applicants? Marta provided.

- Meeting notes when there is not a quorum. Laura – standard practice is to provide notes to those members present and for the record.

Action: Get notes from Brian for Aug 1st and Sept 4 MRC meetings (Kathy also has notes for Sept 4). **Result:** Since there was no quorum, no official notes were taken for Aug 1 and Sept 4; Kathy's notes were emailed to MRC members, but cannot be part of the official record since they were not officially taken.

- Subcommittee makeup and meetings – Laura suggests revisiting this subject when have a full component of MRC members.

Greg – do we risk missing the SMP comment period? Laura – yes. Jamie – SMP update is currently in the Prosecuting Attorney's office; need official Hearing Draft in order to move forward in process, so there is still some time and may start weighing in now. Laura suggests discussing if MRC as Salmon Citizens Advisory Group uses the Salmon Recovery Plan as a lens to structure comments on SMP update.

Action: Marta – need to follow up with CC on timeline.

- NW Straits Commission August 23: Greg - our report is due Sept 23rd. Fund raising arm has been separated out; may want to split out NW Straits Commission and the NW Straits Foundation; Greg sits on both representing SJC Marine Resources Committee.
- NW Straits Commission Sept 10: Phil – Salish Sea Wiki is set up for articles, encouraged to get the word out on MRC projects; upcoming NW Straits 15th Annual MRC Conference, each MRC is to present a 5 minute slide show of 20 slide projects that has no text.

Marta – Sound IQ is live for SJC through the NW Straits Commission website. Send corrections to Suzanne Shoal and copy Jim Slocomb.

- Upcoming meetings: Marta – register for NW Straits 15th Annual MRC Conference, November 22-23 in Bellingham, which is paid for (all MRC members); need to put together 2 baskets for the auction. Conference is pre- paid; get reimbursements for travel, meals and lodging.

Barbara R – next LIO Implementation Committee meeting location has been changed to Whidbey Island Bank from 11:30 – 1:30.

- **LIO Meeting Summary, Barbara Rosenkotter;**

Barbara R– Marta presented the Near Term Action updates to CC this Monday; follow up from CC - make it very clear that all programs are VOLUNTARY; clarify which priority areas.

Next Step – CC will continue dialogue; obtain approval from AOC during Sept 25 meeting.

Discussion: New Chair for MRC – Barbara B requests deferring this discussion until after the video streaming discussion.

Discussion: New location and video streaming capability. Marta – moved this meeting to CC due to capability to obtain quorum through electronic means, in addition may video stream future meetings.

Laura – have not had difficulty achieving quorums in the past, this recent difficulty is due to not having full MRC membership. Greg is in favor of video streaming, anyone can watch from any laptop that is connected to the web. Jamie – participation by video conferencing can be arranged through libraries and fire departments; can also be set up for members to participate remotely to achieve a quorum. Barbara B – can members access the web?

Action: Jamie will check into it.

Action: Chuck made a motion to hold MRC meetings in CC chambers to allow for video streaming and facilitate better communication with CC and public; second by Greg; motion passed unanimously. Discussion will be held in the future regarding remote participation by MRC members.

Discussion: Derelict Vessel Program, follow up on letter of support. Barbara R – letter was drafted, approved, and John signed.

Action: Susan will check with Brian as to status.

Result: Brian sent letter to CC via email on July 23, 2013; Brian forwarded to Susan on 9-20-13, who forwarded to Marta and Barbara B.

Discussion: Spill Training & Community Engagement, Sept 28, IOSA. Marta – please recruit attendees. Laura – this workshop is important to determine the MRC’s role in the advent of an oil spill, so it is very important that MRC members to attend.

Discussion: New Chair for MRC. Barbara B will do it if members step up and complete action items, such as putting together auction baskets for the November NW Annual Marine Resources Committee Conference. Chuck volunteered to put together a basket working with Barbara Marrett. Laura Jo Severson volunteered to put together a second basket.

Action: Chuck made a motion for Barbara Bentley to serve 6 months as MRC chair; seconded by Greg; Barbara B abstained; passed unanimously.

Citizen Input: Jacques – huge Chinook are returning to Glenwood Springs, come visit!

The MRC will convene again at the 10/2 MRC meeting at 8:30 am at Islanders Bank. (NOTE LOCATION CHANGE DUE TO CONFLICT WITH CRITICAL AREAS ORDINANCE REVIEW)

Meeting was adjourned at 10:26 am with thanks given to departing members.

Minutes submitted by Susan Key

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date	Event	Location	Time
2013-09-20&21	Citizen Science Oil Spill Workshop	Camp Orkila, Dederer Center	Overnight- two days (9/20-21)
2013-09-28	Community Engagement In Oil Spill Response & Readiness Workshop	Friday Harbor Labs	9AM-3:30PM
2013-10-2	MRC Meeting	{Changed to Islander’s bank room!}	8:30 – 10:30
2013-10-2	LIO Implementation Committee mtg	Whidbey Island Bank	11:30-1:30
2013-11-22 and 11-23	Northwest Straits 15 th Annual Marine Resources Committee Conference	Best Western Plus Lakeway Inn & Conference Center, Bellingham, WA	Overnight

DELETE THIS PAGE, CORRECT PAGE NUMERATIONS AS RESULT???

SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Oct 2, 2013, 8:30-10:30am
Islanders Bank, 225 Blair Avenue, Downstairs Meeting Room
Friday Harbor, WA

Members Present: Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Barbara Bentley, Rene Beliveau (left @ 10:12), Johannes Krieger, Ken Sebens (left @ 10:23)

Members Absent: Barbara Marrett, Chuck Schietinger, Phil Green,

Staff: Marta Branch (Coordinator), Susan Key (Notes)

Guests: Kathy Dolsen (Westcott Bay Sea Farms), Barbara Rosenkotter (Lead Entity Coordinator for Salmon Recovery), Laura Jo Severson, Manique Talaia-Murray (SJ Preservation Trust intern), Janet Alderton

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The MRC meeting was called to order by Chair Barbara Bentley at 8:34 am.

Citizen Comments: None.

Meeting Minutes: Greg made a motion to approve the minutes of September 18, Johannes seconded; approved unanimously.

Discussion: do MRC members want the minutes to be recorded as notes or in paragraph format - consensus for notes instead of minutes. Keeping costs of notes/minutes down cited as priority.

Subcommittee Reports:

- **Policy and Executive Subcommittees, *Laura Arnold*:** Subcommittees in flux due to unknown status of membership, therefore there have been no meetings. Sitting MRC members would like to elicit new subcommittee memberships from incoming MRC members.
Action Item: the Policy Subcommittee will convene when there is a hearing draft available for the SMP update.
- **Science Subcommittee, *Barbara Bentley*:**
 - Citizen Science 2-day Workshops were held September 20 & 21, 2013 at Camp Orkila, Orcas and were a resounding success. Sediment samples were collected using chain of custody protocols and are in a dedicated freezer. The hope is to continue these workshops over the next 3 years.
 - **Action Item:** Barbara B will work with Ken Sebens on an agreement between the MRC and FH Labs regarding freezing of samples, security of samples, etc.
 - The first oil spill preparedness training occurred September 28; there will be a second training in the future; the use of dispersants in the waters around SJC could be a topic for MRC discussion.
- **NW Straits, *Greg Ayers*:** possible regional bull kelp restoration project, funding to be determined, would there be a role for citizen participants?; discussion on ocean acidification, Clallam MRC and WA Sea Grant studying the economic impacts of ocean acidification; reminder

of 15th Annual NW Straits MRC Conference, rooms held until October 18 so reserve your room now; update on Puget Sound Science committee activities by Dr John Sein, NOAA; discussion of Senator Cantwell's interest in MRCs and their work with her aid; regarding the federal shutdown, fiscal year 2013 activities are funded and continue to go forward.

- **NW Straits Foundation, Greg Ayers:** selected an auditor; teleconference in two weeks; Barbara B - is it possible to get a financial breakdown? Greg – yes, he has asked for more breakdown and detail, should be available in ~ two weeks.

Action Item: Greg will provide the financial breakdown to MRC members as soon as it is available.

Action Item: Ken, Chuck and Laura Jo will put together baskets or individual items for the 15th Annual NW Straits Commission MRC Conference; Marta will email the deadline to them.

- **Salmon Recovery, Barbara Bentley and Barbara Rosenkotter:** role of MRC as compared to the Salmon Citizens Advisory Group (CAG)

- When the Salmon Citizens Advisory Group was moved to SJC Community Development & Planning Department from the San Juan Islands Conservation District, the then Board of County Commissioners designated the MRC as the CAG.

- **Action Item:** Barbara R will share the documentation of this action with MRC members

- The MRC will continue to adjourn and reconvene when both functions are needed in order for clarity as to which body is doing what

- The Recreation and Conservation Office is going in front of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (oversees capacity funding for the 25 Lead Entity programs across the state, which have been receiving the same level of funding since 1999) to request an increase in capacity funding for Lead Entities that receive less than \$60,000/year, thus the San Juan Lead Entity program would receive an additional \$10,000/year. The San Juan Lead Entity program is currently at a deficit, as the coordinator is part time; the county is currently not providing any funding or in kind support to the Lead Entity program; in addition, Rene has requested \$10,000 in the county's 2014 budget to support the Lead Entity program; NEED a letter of support from CAG to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board; Greg made a motion that Barbara R draft a letter to be sent from the County Council to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board recommending increased funding for the county program, and to note that this is supported by the MRC and the CAG in their dual roles; Laura seconded; motion passed unanimously

- **Action Item:** Barbara R will draft a letter for the County Council's approval

- **Staff, Marta Branch:**

- Helen Venada card sent

- Bios/pix NEEDED for MRC website

Action Item: all MRC members check the website; if your photo and/or bio is not there, email it to Marta

- Report on Workshops – Barbara B previously gave reports on workshops; Marta would like to note that she has been working a lot and recording all time spent on timesheets to document the number of hours it takes to be both MRC and LIO coordinator; Rene is aware of her workload; Barbara B expressed her appreciation to Marta, as did many other MRC members

- Register for NW Straits 15th Annual MRC Conference – has been discussed

- Auction items for above conference – has been discussed
- Tribal representation – Marta discussed MRC tribal position with all 3 Tribal AOC representatives before the September 25 AOC meeting; they came to an agreement that Matt Baker (Tulalip) would be recommended to the County Council as the MRC tribal representative; Marta sent an email to Jamie Stephens summarizing this decision and copied the representatives from the three Tribes
- Chair, Barbara Bentley:
 - MRC Committee membership update – Barbara B and Jaime have met with all 12 applicants and will give their recommendations to the County Council; Barbara B will make her recommendations to the County Council by the end of this week
 - Review of the County Council’s May 2013 Advisory Committee ordinance and related procedures/policies – can serve 2 term limits (3 years each x 2 = 6 years), but no direction as to what happens after that; MRC charter has 4 years per appointment (4 years each x 2 = 8 years); 24 hour notice for sub-committee meetings, must produce a brief report for the official record open to the public; must produce an annual report and a work plan; participation by phone is OK, but Barbara B wants to make it very clear that in person participation is much preferred; resignation based on absenteeism occurs after three unexcused absences per year
 - Action Item:** all MRC members are to inform Marta and Barbara B when not able to make a meeting, thus will be considered “excused”
 - Representation on MRC – representations of various interests on the MRC are given in the enabling legislation creating the MRC. Recommendations from the MRC to the County Council concerning the selection of new or replacement members take these guidelines into account.
- **LIO Meeting Summary, Barbara Rosenkotter:** the AOC met last Wednesday, September 25, and approved the content of the Near Term Action updates; however they asked that the IC condense the Near Term Action updates.

Action Item – Subcommittee list: Barbara B passed out a clip board with a list of MRC sub-committees and requested that all members sign up for at least one, and preferably two; incoming MRC members will also be asked to sign up

Discussion – Meeting policy: Barbara B is making an Executive Recommendation that the MRC continues to have 2 meetings per month for 2 hours each; during the 1st meeting of the month business would be covered followed by a presentation/s; the 2nd meeting of the month would include business then sub-committee meetings, which would be regularly scheduled; by noon on October 16, each sub-committee will elect a chair and write up a brief summary of tasks; must be at least 2 MRC members on each sub-committee, and an MRC member must be the Chair; may invite non-MRC members to be working, ad hoc members of sub-committees

Action Item: Laura will provide Marta and Barbara B with a summary of sub-committees, members and who has been doing what

Discussion – SMP update, Rene Beliveau: regarding developing the MRC and/or Citizen’s Salmon Advisory comments for this document; Planning Commission has made comments, Prosecuting Attorney is reviewing, don’t know what this timeline will be

Laura Arnold - comments on the SMP update is part of the MRCs work plan so do not need County Council approval to do so; Laura made a recommendation that as soon as the hearing draft notice goes out the MRC Policy Sub-Committee should be convened and make a recommendation to the full MRC as to comments; Laura also made a recommendation that comments on the SMP update related to the top 3 threats identified in the Pulling It All Together Project come from the CAG, and any additional comments come from the MRC

Discussion – Coal terminal letter, Barbara Bentley: Whatcom County, US Army Corp of Engineers, and WA State Department of Ecology are the co-lead agencies involved in the EIS; SJC has participated in the EIS scoping process via 3 letters from the County Council and a November 27 letter from the MRC; scoping meeting occurred in SJC

Concern brought forth by the San Juan Alliance Group and Barbara Keller - the current EIS scoping document is **not** including SJC’s concerns; Jamie asked the MRC to review the scoping document and make sure that it addresses all of SJC’s concerns; Council would like to prepare a letter if necessary, and wants to base it on factual information from the previous work done.

Action Item: Ken will lead the effort of the Science Sub-Committee to write a memo to the County Council so that the Council can write a letter stating which concerns are covered and which are not, and that all concerns need to be part of the main portion of the EIS; will wait until next week when have a full complement of MRC members; may ask non-members to be part of this task, and Janet Alderton volunteered;

Action Item: Barbara B will provide the link to the scoping document to MRC members and Janet Alderton

Suggestions for Future Agenda Topics: email Barbara B ideas, especially for presentations and discussions, and especially in the context of 6 new incoming MRC members

Elect a Vice Chair: discussed and postponed until new members are seated

Citizen Input: none

The MRC will convene again at the 10/16 MRC meeting at 8:30 am at SJC Council Chambers.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:26 am with thanks given to departing members.

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Salmon Citizens Advisory Group convened @ 10:26

Project Implementation & Development funds are available via Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) capacity funding:

- PSAR has capacity funding and each Lead Entity can submit a request up to \$200,000 but the request must be scalable; each area can submit a proposal as to how they would use this funding to move a current or proposed PSAR project ahead (NOTE: all of these projects have already gone through a rigorous RFP process to be funded); proposals must come through each Lead Entity, are **due November 8**, and must spend funding in the next year; Barbara R’s recommendation is to fund the appraisals for the previously funded neighborhood conservation easement project coordinated by the SJ Preservation Trust
- Needs to be a priority effort, which for our area is PROTECTION; the only groups working on this are SJ Preservation Trust and SJC Land Bank, which narrows the recipient list; could send out an RFP that specifies must be a current PROTECTION project

- Greg made a motion that Barbara R send out a brief and very specific RFP to potential recipients of this PSAR funding; Laura seconds; Barbara B called for a vote of those present, 4 present voted unanimously in favor, Marta contacted Rene and Ken via phone during the meeting with MRC members present ; both voted in favor, with these votes MRC achieved quorum and voted unanimous approval for motion
- **Action Item:** Barbara R will email an RFP to potential recipients and also send the RFP to online newspapers

Project of Concern – Long Live the Kings Marine Survival Project has been identified as a project of concern by the state review panel; Barbara, TAG and project leads will be working over the next month to try to resolve the identified concerns

Salmon Citizens Advisory Group meeting adjourned @ 10:46am

Minutes submitted by Susan Key

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date	Event	Location	Time
2013-10-2	LIO Implementation Committee meeting	Whidbey Island, Meeting Room	11:30AM – 1:30PM
2013-10-16	MRC Meeting	SJC Legislative Building, Council Chambers	8:30 – 10:30AM
2013-11-22 and 11-23	Northwest Straits 15 th Annual Marine Resources Committee Conference	Best Western Plus Lakeway Inn & Conference Center, Bellingham,	Overnight

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Oct 16, 2013, 8:30-10:30am
Legislative Hearing Room
55 Second Street, Friday Harbor, WA**

Members Present: Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Barbara Bentley, Rene Beliveau, Kathleen Dolsen, Wes Heinmiller, Johannes Krieger, Barbara Marrett, Terrance Turner, Ken Sebens (left @ 10:20am), Tom Temple, and Robert Wilson

Members Absent: Phil Green, Chuck Schietinger; Position 2 (Tribal Representative) of 15 is currently vacant

Staff: Marta Branch (Coordinator), Susan Key (Minutes)

Guests: Janet Alderton (San Juan Alliance Committee), Jamie Stephens (SJC Council Member), Sam Gibboney (incoming SJC Community Development & Planning Department director), Eric Eisenhardt (Soundwatch Program Coordinator), Barbara Rosenkotter (Lead Entity Coordinator for Salmon Recovery)

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****Denotes pre-meeting reading material sent to members with meeting agenda**

Convene MRC Meeting: the MRC meeting was called to order by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 8:32 am.

Citizen Input: *Janet Alderton* – asked the MRC to discourage allowing fin fish aquaculture in the SMP update; Jamie Stephens introduced Sam Gibboney as Rene Beliveau’s replacement; MRC members offered congratulations to Rene on his retirement!

Meeting Minutes: Minutes of the Oct 2, 2013 MRC meeting were approved with 6 abstentions

Live Streaming PAUSED for Discussion: regarding live streaming this first meeting with 5 new members; members agreed to follow the vote during the September 18, 2013 MRC meeting to live stream future MRC meetings that are held in the Legislative Conference Room; clarification that live streaming also entails audio recording; **Live Streaming RESUMED.**

Introduction of New MRC Members: Kathleen Dolsen, Wesley Heinmiller, Thomas Temple, Terrance Turner, Robert Wilson

Sign up clipboard for joining MRC sub-committees was passed around to MRC members with the handout for the current MRC sub-committees. New members that have less than 4 years remaining in their terms are listed as partial (Pt'l)

Reports

- **Subcommittees**
 - **Executive, Laura Arnold:** this subcommittee assists the MRC coordinator with putting together the regular grant proposals to NW Straits Commission, annual work plans and annual reports, agendas for annual Marine Managers Workshops and other events, and organizing annual MRC retreats (usually in November; need to avoid Nov 21 & 22, which is the 15th NW Straits Annual MRC Conference)

Action Item: Chair Barbara B, Marta and members of this committee will move forward quickly to select a date and location, and develop an agenda

- **Policy, Laura Arnold:** waiting for the SMP update window to give input; this task will overlap with the MRC Science Subcommittee
- **Science, Barbara Bentley, Chair:** Barbara B is resigning as Chair of the Science Subcommittee; Ken will have scheduling problems due to teaching in Seattle so will not be able to Chair this subcommittee
- **Outreach, Barbara Marrett:** in the past, the MRC has had a dedicated outreach subcommittee with a part time staff member (Jeff Hansen), and has belonged to the SJI Stewardship Network (meets on the third Wednesday of each month at noon); Barbara B would like the MRC to once again take the lead in accomplishing the outreach that the MRC would like to see; Greg – is there pass through funding from the NW Straits Commission for outreach? Rene – not at this time; Laura – there are opportunities to include specific outreach efforts through the NW Straits Commission funding; Marta – a small amount of funding is coming through the local LIO to address outreach, however she is concerned that the MRC coordinator position is only ½ time; Barbara B – MRC has gone from 1 ½ positions to only a ½ position, thus MRC's outreach role has significantly diminished, she has created a PowerPoint to showcase what the MRC has done, but there is no one to present it;

Action Item: Greg will check with the NW Straits Commission to see what resources are available to help fund local MRC outreach

- **NW Straits Liaison Meeting, Greg Ayers:** next meeting will be a teleconference on Oct 25; they are alternating in-person and teleconference meetings; 15th Annual NW Straits MRC Conference is Nov 21 & 22 in Bellingham; Marta – Oct 18 is the deadline for reduced room rates so register by this Friday; Greg – free to MRC members; Marta – travel and meals are reimbursed; Chair Barbara B, Barbara M, Greg and Marta highly recommended that all new members attend; Greg is willing to talk with any of the new members about the MRC's connection to NW Straits Commission and the separate NW Straits Foundation

Action Item: Marta will send out the email for the Conference details

Action Item: all attending MRC members register for lodging by this Friday, Oct 18

- **Staff, Marta Branch:**

- Bios/pix for MRC website – please email both to Marta and they will be posted on the MRC website, www.sjcmrc.org

Action Items:

- 1) **Photos needed** for Johannes, Ken, and new members Kathy, Tom, Phil, Terry, Wes, Chuck, Robert and Sam
 - 2) **Bios needed** for Kathy, Tom, Phil, Terry, Wes, Chuck, Robert and Sam
- ****MRC Committee membership update** – see above
 - New grant quarterly report, **volunteer hours needed** – Marta passed out a form for all members to include all of the hours that they have put in to any and all MRC activities (meetings, prep, events, etc.); Chair Barbara B underscored that volunteer hours are used to cover most of the required **matching funds** for the grants that the MRC receives, thus tracking them is very important
 - 2014 Action Agenda update – includes Near Term Actions devised by our local Implementation Committee (includes 2 MRC members), which directs the course of what we do locally to restore the health of our shared watersheds
 - Upcoming Meetings, register for conference, auction items – please register, deadline for reduced lodging rates is this Friday, October 18; Ken has provided a gift basket, Marta will be auctioned off as a naturalist leading a fieldtrip

Action Item: all members who are attending need to register for the conference; deadline for reduced lodging is this coming Friday Oct 18

- Dates for Marine Managers Workshop – traditionally in early winter at the Friday Harbor Labs; the following dates are available: Jan 29-31 (conflicts with NW Straits Commission meeting in the San

Juans on Jan 31), Feb 5-7 (2 conflicts), Feb 26-28 (Ken has conflict); Feb 5-7 was selected by consensus

- **Action Item:** Marta and Executive Subcommittee members will organize agenda quickly so invitations can go out to presenters as soon as possible
- Marta encouraged new members to come to her with any questions
- **LIO Meeting Summary, Barbara Rosenkotter, Laura Arnold:** no comments; Rene – encouraged 2 volunteers from the MRC to attend this meeting (1st Wed of each month @ 11:30 – 1:30 directly following the MRC meeting); Chair Barbara B volunteered, Ken Sebens represents that FH Labs and agreed to also represent the MRC

Discussion: WDFW News Release, WDFW seeks comments and schedules public meetings on Hydraulic Code, *Barbara Rosenkotter* – the Hydraulic Code rules dictate the Hydraulic Permit Approval (HPA) process, which has been in place since 1943 to ensure projects such as bulkheads, docks, and culverts meet state standards for fish and wildlife protection; the MRC as the Salmon Citizens Advisory Group did submit comments in December 2012 including the Beamer-Fresh Report; also noted that there are no fish listed in the appendix as threatened when there are many species of fish that are listed throughout the state; comments are due November 15; Greg – is Council planning on commenting? Jamie – it would be helpful for the MRC to provide input to advise the County Council; Chair Barbara B requested that the MRC Policy Subcommittee (Greg, Laura, Terry, and any other new members) will work with Barbara R to compile a draft letter for the County Council; Kim Sundberg (TAG), Tina Whitman, and Eric Eisenhardt will likely act as ad hoc members for this specific task

Action Item: Barbara R will email background info to Policy Subcommittee members and work with them to compile a draft letter for the County Council

Discussion:

- MRC overview, *Marta:* passed out a draft document entitled *San Juan County Marine Resources Committee History, Structure, Responsibilities and Roles*; Barbara M mentioned the new members orientation packet put together by past MRC coordinator Mary Knackstedt
- **Action Item:** Marta will check with Sue Kollet if a final version went to the County Council
- **Action Item:** Laura and the Executive Subcommittee will update the orientation packet and deliver to new MRC members
- Introduction of 2013-14 priority topics and 2013 work plan, *Marta:* the Executive Subcommittee compiles an annual work plan, which is then approved by the full MRC; as a precursor, Marta passed out the MRC's *2013-14 Draft Priorities* and an Excel spreadsheet, *The 2014 Action Agenda in the San Juan Islands* so members may familiarize themselves with what has been done to date
- **Subcommittee list and structures – see above
- New member sign up; recruit ad hoc committee members – see above; Marta – potential for ad hoc subcommittee members; Chair Barbara B notes that ad hoc members are not appointed to the subcommittees, but work on specific tasks and attend subcommittee meetings until those tasks are complete
- Structure of 2nd monthly meeting to allow committee meeting time? *Chair Barbara B* – asked for input on the proposed structure of the 1st meetings of the month including business and presentations, and the 2nd meetings of the month devoted to business plus subcommittee meetings; Johannes – there was a past suggestion to remove the 2nd meeting if there is not the workload; Chair Barbara B –, this is a possibility if we use time efficiently; Laura – have committed to tasks (deliverables) in grants, once we get subcommittees up and running it will be unlikely that there is not enough workload for 2 meetings per month; Johannes – consider the possibility of having a longer 4 hour meeting once a month;
- **Motion:** Greg - change the structure of our meetings such that the 1st meeting of each month is a business meeting that includes presentations and the 2nd meeting consists of business (1 hour) plus subcommittee meetings (1 hour); Ken seconded; discussion followed; motion passed unanimously

Citizen Input: Jamie – thanked and welcomed new members, has asked Sue to email MRC members the most recent version of committee rules adopted by the County Council; encouraged all members to volunteer for subcommittees; regarding the proposed letter from the San Juan Accountability Oversight Committee (AOC) to the Port of Friday Harbor regarding the Downriggers property, there may be funding and technical advice available to the Port for building on the waterfront in a responsible manner; Barbara M (Port Commissioner) – the Port is in the process of interviewing engineers and architects, so the sooner the letter arrives, the better; Jamie - encourages the MRC to move forward with SMP input, even though the window is not yet open for public input; noted that Jefferson County actually banned fin fish net pins in their SMP update, but the ban was rejected on appeal

Action Item: Sue Kollet will email MRC members the most recent version of committee rules adopted by the County Council

Janet Alderton (San Juan Alliance Committee) – she is looking at the scoping process for the proposed Gateway Terminal, has text of San Juan County Council comments and is comparing their requests with what has been included; is working with Ken and the Science Subcommittee

Recognition of Rene’s service as an MRC member! Chair Barbara B noted how important the link between the MRC and the Community Development & Planning Department is, and welcomed Sam Gibboney onto the MRC

The MRC will convene again at the November 6 MRC meeting at 8:30 am at the SJC Legislative Hearing Room.

Adjourn MRC Meeting: the meeting was adjourned by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 10:04 am.

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Convene Salmon Citizens Advisory Group Meeting: the meeting was called to order by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 10:05 am.

Citizen Input: Janet Alderton – National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)/National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) tagged a resident orca and followed it and fellow pod members from December 2012 through April 2013 to northern CA; during this trip the resident orcas spent a significant amount of time at the mouth of the Columbia River, which underscores our connection on a larger watershed scale and links to concerns about proposed coal exports coming down the Columbia River

Discussion: Restructure committee, elect new chair? Chair Barbara B – opened discussion about the difference of the MRC and the Salmon Citizens Advisory Group; members agreed to postpone this discussion to a later date in order for new members to become more familiar with both roles

Reports

- **Response to the PSAR Project Implementation & Development Awards (PIDA) RFPs, *Barbara Rosenkotter* – received 3 responses

Greg – thanked Barbara R for taking the time to go through the RFP process

Terry – asked about background for the Priority Salmon Recovery Region map; Barbara R – based on the Pulling It All Together Project (PIAT), which collected and analyzed a significant amount of data

Three Responses

- 1) Mark Broman, Harbormaster, Deer Harbor Marina – expressed an interest for future reference in removing creosote and derelict crab pots; Greg –since creosote removal is very important, could Mark help by tweaking this project in order to receive future funding? Barbara R – hopes to plug him into the ongoing creosote removal project previously approved and funded via local salmon recovery process in partnership with WA State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- 2) Kevin Klein, Puget Sound Anglers – expressed an interest in partnering with Friday Harbor Labs to install temporary (2 month) net pens for Chinook from hatcheries so that they imprint on this area

and return to the San Juans; Barbara R – this project needs a lot of approvals and permits; it is not currently in the NOAA approved regional Salmon Recovery Plan which includes our local chapter; Greg – therefore it doesn't meet the criteria of being a priority action in the local Salmon Recovery Plan; Greg – can we do multiple proposals? Barbara R – no, we must submit only one for consideration and, based on the funding source, it must be actions consistent with the approved recovery plan; Ken – Kevin spoke with Ken about Friday Harbor Labs involvement and there is some potential for future collaboration; Barbara R – would need to come up with creative sources to fund this kind of project as traditional Salmon Recovery funding sources support actions identified in federally approved recovery plans; Johannes – likes the idea of bringing more “protein” to these waters, so would like to see a way for this project to move forward

- 3) Neighborhood Salmon Easement Pilot Project – this project is a tool currently in development by the SJ Preservation Trust to look at whole reaches and put together a multiple property owner conservation easement to protect shoreline salmon habitat; it is an existing Salmon recovery project, and **protection** is a local priority; Greg – how are the 5 parcels identified? What is role of the participating organizations (SJ Preservation Trust and FOSJ)?; Barbara R – the original Salmon Recovery proposal was a joint effort between SJ Preservation Trust and FOSJ, who have both been approaching shoreline landowners; SJ Preservation Trust would hold the easements; the parcels were identified based on the **PIAT Priority Area maps; Jamie – is there anything in our local Action Agenda that would have fit this RFP? Barbara R – not that could be funded through this process; Chair Barbara B – given Barbara R's summary, this is realistically the only fundable project

Motion: Laura moved to put the Neighborhood Salmon Conservation Easement Pilot Project forward as the MRC's recommendation for the PSAR Project Implementation & Development Awards; second by Rene; discussion: Terry – can we know the exact locations? Barbara R – locations are a sensitive issue at this stage for the actual property owners, when we know that the property owners do want to proceed with establishing an easement the location will become public knowledge; Terry – is price of the appraisals reasonable? Barbara R – we may be getting a group rate, and some landowners may be willing to donate a conservation easement; Laura – supports this project as a model, that if successful, can be exported; Johannes – appreciates Barbara R's time in putting out an RFP and would like to incorporate Kevin's proposal in some manner in the future; motion passed with one abstention by Bob Wilson

Action Item: Barbara R will email members the proposal and notify them of the results of the PIDA process

Adjourn Salmon Advisory Group Meeting: the meeting was adjourned by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 10:37 am with thanks given to departing members.

Minutes Submitted by Susan Key

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date	Event	Location	Time
2013-11-6	LIO Implementation Committee meeting	Town?	11:00AM – 1:30PM
2013-11-6	MRC Meeting	SJC Legislative Building, Council Chambers	8:30 – 10:30AM
2013-11-22 and 11-23	Northwest Straits 15 th Annual Marine Resources Committee Conference	Best Western Plus Lakeway Inn & Conference Center, Bellingham, WA	Overnight

**SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 6, 2013, 8:30-10:30am
Legislative Hearing Room
55 Second Street, Friday Harbor, WA**

Members Present: Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Barbara Bentley, Phil Green, Shireene Hale, Wes Heinmiller, Terrance Turner, Ken Sebens (left @ 10:23am), and Tom Temple

Members Absent: Kathleen Dolsen, Johannes Krieger, Barbara Marrett, Chuck Schietinger, and Robert Wilson; Position 2 (Tribal Representative) of 15 is currently vacant

Staff: Marta Branch (Coordinator), Susan Key (Minutes)

Guests: Jamie Stephens (SJC Council Member), Barbara Rosenkotter (Lead Entity Coordinator for Salmon Recovery)

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****Denotes pre-meeting reading material sent to members with meeting agenda – none for this meeting.**

Convene MRC Meeting: the MRC meeting was called to order by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 8:35 am.
Live Streaming ENGAGED

Citizen Input: none

Meeting Minutes: Minutes of the October 16, 2013 MRC meeting were approved with 1 abstention

Reports

- **County Council Liaison, Jamie Stephens:** no updates today; status of SMP – series of Monday meetings are occurring; Colin Maycock is putting language into ordinance form;
Action Item: Shireene will ask Colin to forward the SMP topic list to Marta who will email it to MRC Executive Subcommittee and Policy Subcommittee members
- **Tribal Liaison, TBA:** have not heard back from Tulalip Tribe regarding the appointed delegate
Action Item: Marta will inquire
- **Port of Friday Harbor, Barbara Marrett:** no report; Marta has drafted the letter from the Implementation Committee to the Port of Friday Harbor (see item below)
- **Subcommittees**
 - **Executive, Laura Arnold, Chair:** annual report is due now to County Council;
 - **Policy, Laura Arnold, Chair:**
 - HPA Letter/Comments, Greg Ayers: have 7 or 8 comments to review and consider at the sub-committee level; phone and some internet service was disrupted yesterday and is still down, therefore the sub-committee meeting scheduled for yesterday did not occur; comments on the HPA revisions are due to WA Department of Fish & Wildlife next Friday; the next Council legislative session is Tuesday, Nov 12; the original document was distributed only to the MRC Policy Sub-Committee, so full MRC has not seen the HPA letter and comments; Shireene suggested that SJC Council request an extension from WDFW; Greg suggested that the two individuals who sent in comments are provided with the information to send them directly to WDFW; Barbara R recommended that the MRC not provide any formal comments due to the limited timeframe. ; Barbara B asked if there were any objections. None were mentioned

- SMP Comments, *Laura Arnold*: the main topics that were reviewed during the MRC Policy Sub-Committee meeting were
 - 1) Aquaculture
 - 2) Armoring
 - 3) Barge landings
 - 4) Boating facilities
 - 5) Desalination
 - 6) Marinas, ports, transportation facilities
 - 7) Residential development
 - 8) Shoreline modification
 - 9) Tidal energy
 - 10) Reviewing restoration plan in terms of top threats identified in salmon recovery work

Shireene –

 - a) Does the MRC want to wait for the Council draft to give formal MRC input? Laura – no, would like to get a head start by working on the Planning Commission draft
 - b) Does Council need comments from MRC in order to do their review? Jamie – yes
- **Science**
 - Gateway Terminal Letter, *Ken Sebens* – working with Barbara B and Janet Alderton to track that all important comments made by the SJC Council and other Islanders are included in the Scoping Document, as well as other associated documents; have summarized ~ 18 areas where the Scoping Document has not included what the SJC Council and others have asked for; this information needs to be submitted before the comment period closes for the Whatcom County EIS, which is the earliest of the 3 EIS processes

Barbara B – the designated “interested parties” (Whatcom County, WA State Department of Ecology, US Corps of Engineers) co-wrote the Scoping Document and then agreed to conduct 3 separate EISs; none of these 3 include SJC as a primary interest

How to address this lack? Conduct our own EIS; request that the 3 EISs include SJC

Greg – may be too late to request our own EIS

Marta – note that the SJC Council has asked the MRC to pinpoint which items submitted by SJC were not included

Jamie – very important to continue with follow up

Laura – what is the timeline for Whatcom County EIS comments?

Action Items: Marta will determine the deadline for comments to Whatcom County EIS; Barbara B and Marta will have a draft ready for the next MRC meeting
 - **Outreach**, *Barbara Marrett, Chair*: no report
 - **NW Straits Liaison Meeting**, *Greg Ayers*:

Commission - participated in a NW Straits Commission conference call on Oct 25 with reports from each county and NW Straits staff; upcoming conference Nov 22-23; Ken received kudos for putting together an attractive basket of local products; Marta and Greg will compose a 6 minute presentation about our local MRC, which may be useful for future outreach presentations

Foundation: approved hiring 2 new positions; one outreach and one development staff
- **Staff**, *Marta Branch*:
 - Bios/pix for MRC website – please email both to Marta and they will be posted on the MRC website, www.sjcmrc.org

Action Items:

 - 1) **Photos needed** for Johannes and Ken; new members Thomas, Phil, Terry, Chuck, Robert, and Sam; and staff Marta and Susan
 - 2) **Bios needed** for Thomas, Phil, Terry, Chuck, Robert and Sam; and staff Marta and Susan
Send resumes to Marta and she will write a bio, then email to you for final approval
 - MRC Brochure and other handouts – will have our brochures at the Nov 22-23 conference
 - Collect Volunteer Hours – Marta passed around sign in sheet

- Northwest Straits 15th Annual Marine Resources Committee Conference – please register
- MRC Retreat – could we use a scheduled MRC meeting, possibly Dec 4 to have a retreat? Barbara B would like ALL members to attend for the full day.
Since the first Wednesday in January is the day after New Years, Greg made a motion to change MRC meeting dates to January 8 and 22 with public notice; Phil seconded; motion passed unanimously
Action Item: respond to the survey poll email that Barbara B will send out including Dec 4, Jan 8, and 22 as dates for the MRC Retreat; the poll will also ask for your availability at the Dec 18 MRC meeting
- Work Plan – will be completed during the retreat
- Marine Managers Workshop – Marta has specific dates that the Labs are available as a venue; concerns with a February date are that the international ferry is not available, there is no agenda, speakers have not been invited, nor has there been a save the date mailed out
Barbara B – suggests coordinating a transboundary planning effort that focuses on oil spills and other shared topics in lieu of the typical Marine Managers Workshop
Marta – as a point of history, the Islands Trust (British Columbia) and SJC Council have worked together for many years to move forward on shared issues; the time may be ripe to invite PSP to participate in this effort, since there are some at PSP that do not realize the level of work that has been active and ongoing between SJC and Islands Trust; may be able to meet grant deliverables by coordinating a transboundary planning meeting in lieu of a workshop
Action Item: Executive Committee will discuss options
- Passed around for members to sign and make contributions: card/gift for Rene Beliveau's retirement; card/\$ for family of Helen Venada who recently passed from cancer
- **Chair, Barbara Bentley** – concerned that county council chambers may be too crowded for 15 members; would like to consider returning to Islanders Bank for meetings; does appreciate the video streaming capability that goes with the council chambers
Greg – knows of at least 2 people who have watched videos of past MRC meetings; suggests waiting for the next meeting to see how things are going; Wes likes the council chambers because if he is stuck on Orcas he can still participate via video streaming and phone

Presentation: MRC Barbara Bentley – Barbara B composed a Power Point that included an exercise to gather input from those attending

1. Name 3 things that you **value** about the San Juan Islands
2. Identify 3 things that **threaten** what you value
3. Suggest 3 **actions** that you can take to reduce these threats

Barbara B then summarized the MRC's history, role and accomplishments.

Citizen Input: none

The MRC will convene again at the November 20 meeting, 8:30 am at the SJC Legislative Hearing Room.

Adjourn MRC Meeting: the meeting was adjourned by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 10:23 am.

Minutes Submitted by *Susan Key*

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date	Event	Location	Time
2013-11-6	LIO Implementation Committee meeting	Town of Friday Harbor Fire Station Meeting Hall	11:00AM – 1:30PM
2013-11-20	MRC Meeting	SJC Legislative Building, Council Chambers	8:30 – 10:30AM
2013-11-22 and 11-23	Northwest Straits 15 th Annual Marine Resources Committee Conference	Best Western Plus Lakeway Inn & Conference Center, Bellingham, WA	Overnight
2013-Dec/Jan	MRC all day retreat	??	8:30-? FH? Orcas? Lopez?

SAN JUAN COUNTY
Salmon Advisory Group
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 20, 2013, 8:30-9:00 am
Legislative Hearing Room
55 Second Street, Friday Harbor, WA

Members Present: Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Barbara Bentley, Kathleen Dolsen, Phil Green, Shireene Hale, Wes Heinmiller, Terrance Turner, Ken Sebens (left @ 10:25am), Tom Temple, Robert Wilson

Members Absent: Johannes Krieger, Barbara Marrett, Chuck Schietinger, and; Position 2 (Tribal Representative) of 15 is currently vacant

Staff: Marta Branch (Coordinator), Susan Key (Minutes)

Guests: Barbara Rosenkotter (Lead Entity Coordinator for Salmon Recovery), Dave Cable, Laura Jo Severson, John VanLund

****Denotes pre-meeting reading material sent to members with meeting agenda – none for this meeting.**

Convene Salmon Advisory Group Meeting: the meeting was called to order by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 8:31 am. **Live Streaming ENGAGED**

To watch, go to www.sanjuanco.com and click on County Council (green bar immediately below the photo header); click on Video of Council Meetings (in blue vertical column on left); choose LIVE! for a meeting in session, OR choose Recordings and select the appropriate date

Background & History of Salmon Advisory Group, Barbara Rosenkotter: In 2005 the then San Juan County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) requested that the Lead Entity Program be moved to the county from the Conservation District where it had been housed since 2000. At that time the BOCC designated the MRC as the Salmon Citizens Advisory Group (CAG). The Salmon Recovery RCW77.85 outlines the makeup of local citizens' advisory groups and the MRC's bylaws outline similar representation. Given how nearshore dependent Chinook are, having the MRC as the Salmon Advisory Group has worked well.

Greg – would it make sense to have completely different agendas and minutes for both committees?

Barbara R & Marta – consider the time it will take for committee members and staff, as well as other factors.

Salmon Subcommittee

Barbara R – Question has been raised whether to continue to have an MRC Salmon Subcommittee. Salmon Subcommittee members, along with TAG members, have participated in the review and modifications each year of the project evaluation criteria. Could create this committee as ad hoc when it is needed, however there are other incidences related to the current salmon recovery adaptive management and monitoring efforts that occur throughout the year where a Salmon Subcommittee could provide input.

Barbara B – all of this is related to what the Council wants from the MRC, she and Executive Subcommittee are working on this

Follow up on PIDA proposals

Barbara R – The Klein proposal from Puget Sound Anglers to implement holding areas for juvenile smolts is not a proposal that Barbara can work on. Her position is 100% grant funded and that grant funding is to be used to implement the federally approved regional and local salmon recovery plans. The proposal does not support work identified in the regional or local San Juan County Salmon Recovery Plans. Barbara is raising this as the MRC expressed an interest in supporting the proposal so we need to figure out how to move the proposal forward. The draft county budget had included some support for the local LE Program which would have

provided some flexible funding for 2014 that could have been used to work on the project but that funding has now been removed from the 2014 county budget. The MRC could take on this project; discuss during retreat.

Status Report/Discussion: Marine Survival Project, *Barbara Rosenkotter*- noting what worked and what didn't; per the decision by the MRC we were unable to receive a waiver, therefore this project was pulled and is no longer going forward; there is a regional transboundary project called the Salish Sea Marine Survival project that is moving forward, now without the San Juan's specific piece

Greg – given that, will you be working on this? Barbara R - the San Juan's may be asked to weigh in on the overall transboundary project as it is a regional priority

Barbara R – a recent trend in Puget Sound /Salish Sea has been noted of significant mortality during early marine life stage for steelhead and Chinook salmon has developed when juvenile salmon first reach marine waters (this trend has not been seen in outer coastal areas); the goal with the local Marine Survival project was to look at this die off in the early Chinook life stage, when juveniles are just past the natal river systems, yet still in the marine nearshore of the San Juans

Terry – is the science on mortality available? Barbara R – yes, I'll send it

Action Item: Barbara R will email mortality research

Barbara R – timeline was way too short and unrealistic, which put both Barbara R and this committee in an awkward position; she apologized, but had no way to alleviate the statewide timeline constraints; she is communicating this concern to the Recreation and Conservation Office for future grant rounds.

Citizen Input: none

Adjourn Salmon Advisory Group Meeting: the meeting was adjourned by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 8:53 am with thanks given to departing members.

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SAN JUAN COUNTY
Marine Resources Committee (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 20, 2013, 9:00 – 10:30 am
Legislative Hearing Room
55 Second Street, Friday Harbor, WA

Members Present: Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Barbara Bentley, Kathleen Dolsen, Phil Green, Shireene Hale, Wes Heinmiller, Terrance Turner, Ken Sebens (left @ 10:25am), Tom Temple, Robert Wilson

Members Absent: Johannes Krieger, Barbara Marrett, Chuck Schietinger, and; Position 2 (Tribal Representative) of 15 is currently vacant

Staff: Marta Branch (Coordinator), Susan Key (Minutes)

Guests: Barbara Rosenkotter (Lead Entity Coordinator for Salmon Recovery), Dave Cable, Laura Jo Severson, John VanLund

Convene MRC Meeting: the MRC meeting was called to order by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 9:00 am.

****Denotes pre-meeting reading material sent to members with meeting agenda – none for this meeting.**

Citizen Input: none

Meeting Minutes: Greg – would like to make a motion that the minutes of MRC and Salmon Advisory Group be provided as separate documents; Kathy seconded; discussion; 7 approved; motion passed. Minutes of the November 6, 2013 MRC meeting were approved with changes unanimously.

Reports

- **County Council Liaison, Jamie Stephens** – attending another meeting; no report
- **Tribal Liaison, TBA** – Marta has not heard back from Tulalip Tribes regarding the appointed delegate; sent a formal email last week to Terry Williams asking for status
Barbara R – Morgan Ruff communicated that the Tribes are still going through staff changes and figuring out how to fill this role; possibly will know in December
Barbara B - emphasized how important this representation is to the MRC
- **Port of Friday Harbor, Barbara Marrett** – not present
- **Subcommittees**
 - **Executive** - nothing to report
 - **Policy**
 - HPA Letter/Comments, *Greg Ayers* – deadline has been extended, however Greg recommends that the letters that have come in go to the Council from the individuals; this will be discussed during the subcommittee meeting immediately after this main meeting
 - SMP Comments, *Laura Arnold* – hopes to narrow down the list of topics; may be more effective to parse out time by listening to how Council discusses each of these topics to identify where the MRC can best weigh in; for example, the misperception that the new draft regulations will make it much more difficult to repair/replace armoring; suggests discussion during subcommittee meetings
Shireene – it may be valuable for the MRC to review what the Planning Commission recommended on goals and policies; Laura – we'll take this up in subcommittee meetings
 - **Science**
 - Gateway Terminal Letter, *Ken Sebens* – San Juans are still not specifically included in any of the scoping efforts; he has compiled a letter with a summary of points made by and questions posed from SJC Council based on Barbara B's bulleted list of the Nov 29 letter from SJC Council to the 3 agencies involved (Whatcom County, Ecology, Corps of Engineers)
Marta – spoke with Janet Alderton who is searching for more info on timeline; Janet believes that the document releases will be in 2015
Barbara B – what is important to note is the scoping process, specifically what will be included in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) scoping document, which has already been released, and which does not include the input from SJC Council; in addition, Whatcom will not include SJC in the area covered by their EIS, nor will Ecology, nor will the Corp; therefore the existing EIS scoping document is incomplete, as are the proposed Environmental Impact Statements; were originally going to have only one EIS, now will have two (Corp; Ecology and Whatcom County)
Laura – it is critically important that SJC weigh in at this point, and get our concerns included
Terry – would it be worthwhile to coordinate with the Gulf Islands? Laura –the SJC Council could communicate to Islands Trust that we could use their support on this issue
Marta – the SJC Action Agenda includes oil spill issues that include transboundary agreements; SJC and Islands Trust have a history of working together since 1998
Ken – would like to send his letter to all MRC members; Barbara B – include the approval of this letter as an agenda item for next meeting
Action Item: Ken will email letter to all MRC members asking for their input
Action Item: include approval of this letter as an agenda item for next MRC meeting
 - **Outreach** – Barbara B passed around a card and asked each member to list at least one group to which Barbara B will give the MRC Power Point

Phil – Stewardship Network meeting today at noon; Phil will assess if he will attend future meetings as MRC Outreach rep

- **NW Straits Liaison Meeting, Greg Ayers -**

Commission – focusing on this the annual conference this Friday and Saturday; they will meet this weekend during the annual conference

Foundation – will meet during the annual conference this weekend

- **Staff, Marta Branch:**

- MRC received a letter officially appointing Shireene to fill in for Sam representing CDPD since Sam must attend the managers meeting that conflicts with the MRC meeting time

- Bios/pix for MRC website – please email both to Marta and they will be posted on the MRC website, www.sjcmrc.org

Action Items:

Photos needed for Johannes and Ken; new members Thomas, Phil, Terry, Chuck, Robert, and Sam; and staff Marta

Bios needed for Thomas, Terry, Chuck, Robert and Sam; and staff Marta and Susan
Send resumes to Marta and she will write a bio, then email to you for final approval

- MRC Brochure – Marta passed around the MRC brochure; this brochure is based on four large display panels, which Marta will bring to the annual conference this weekend
Barbara B – will handout these brochures during her presentations to organizations
- Collect Volunteer Hours – Marta passed around sign in sheets; County requires this documentation; also used as match for NW Straits Foundation grant; THANK YOU for your service!
- Northwest Straits 15th Annual Marine Resources Committee Conference – thanks to those who are attending, and thanks to Laura Jo Severson and Ken for putting together a gift basket; carpooling was discussed
- MRC Retreat – internet poll results indicates January 8 as the best date; must request a deadline extension from Council for submission of 2014 Work Plan

Action Item: ALL MEMBERS mark their calendars for January 8 ALL DAY retreat

Action Item: Marta will check availability of Labs for that date, and find an alternate location if necessary

Action Item: will discuss materials needed for the retreat during December MRC meetings

- Work Plan – will be completed during the January 8 retreat
- Marine Managers Workshop – discussed changing date from February during the Executive Subcommittee meeting; no dates available at Labs during spring 2014, possibly one date in September 2014; Marta suggests putting together a smaller transboundary conference/work session to focus on furthering efforts between SJC and Islands Trust (Gulf Islands, BC)

- **Chair, Barbara Bentley –**

- Opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair; Terry Turner was nominated, seconded and elected unanimously

Terry – could we occasionally meet on Orcas? Barbara B – MRC used to meet quarterly at the Orcas ferry landing; Marta – this could work for the 3rd Wednesday meetings, which are followed by Stewardship Network meetings, but not for the first Wednesday meetings, which are followed by the Implementation Committee meeting

- Absences – if members miss 3 meetings without notification to Marta, will be off the MRC; please let Marta know if you will miss meetings

Discussion: New location and video streaming capability

Kathy D – very much appreciates the video streaming as it will sometimes be necessary for her to attend in this manner

Shireene – can include members via phone or video conferencing; more involved for video conferencing through the Library

Marta – if you are unable to attend a meeting, please let Marta know if you can attend via phone or video and she will make arrangements

Citizen Input: John VanLund of Marine Structure Engineering, Anacortes, was SJC Engineer for 7 years – asked about the HPA letter; wants the MRC to note that to do any work in water one must have a Corp permit, and a WDFW Hydraulic Permit Approval (HPA); taken together, both do not permit working in water for about a five month period; if the HPA letter extends this period, it will mean that most of the work will need to occur during the winter; currently the work window is closed Feb 15 – July 16; concerned about a letter that would propose a longer period

Barbara B – thanked John for bringing his concern to the MRC

Greg – the letter would come from the SJC Council, with input from the MRC; he is heading this effort, and he has not received comments that would recommend extending the work window closure; he is sensitive to the challenges of working in water, and would not personally support submitting a recommendation that the work window closures be extended

The MRC will convene again at the December 4 meeting, 8:30 am at the SJC Legislative Hearing Room.

Adjourn MRC Meeting: the meeting was adjourned by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 10:02 am.

MRC Subcommittees Meeting: Chairs were elected for each subcommittee; discussions; subcommittees concluded their meetings ~ 10:30am

Minutes Submitted by *Susan Key*

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date	Event	Location	Time
2013-11-20	San Juan Stewardship Meeting	Whidbey Island Bank	11:30 – 13:30
2013-12-3	LIO Coordinator’s Meeting	Edmonds, WA	10:00- 14:00
2013-12-4	MRC Meeting	SJC Legislative Building, Council Chambers	8:30 – 10:30
2013-12-10	Sea Doc Lecture/Dinner	Camp Orkila, Orcas Island	17:00-20:00
2014-1-8	MRC Meeting/Retreat	SJC Legislative Building, Council Chambers	All day
2014-12-18	San Juan Stewardship Meeting & Potluck	TBD	11:00 – 13:30

SAN JUAN COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 4, 2013, 8:30-10:30am
Legislative Hearing Room
55 Second Street, Friday Harbor, WA

Members Present: Laura Arnold, Greg Ayers, Barbara Bentley, Kathleen Dolsen, Phil Green (left @ 9:10), Sam Gibboney (left @ 9:27), Wes Heinmiller, Barbara Marrett, Terrance Turner, and Tom Temple

Members Absent: Johannes Krieger, Chuck Schietinger, Ken Sebens, and Robert Wilson; Position 2 (Tribal Representative) of 15 is currently vacant

Staff: Marta Branch (Coordinator), Susan Key (Minutes)

Guests: Jamie Stephens (SJC Council Member), Jack Cory (arrived ~ 10:15)

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****Denotes pre-meeting reading material sent to members with meeting agenda**

Convene MRC Meeting: the MRC meeting was called to order by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 8:37 am

Live Streaming ENGAGED

To watch, go to www.sanjuanco.com and click on County Council (green bar immediately below the photo header); click on Video of Council Meetings (in blue vertical column on left); choose LIVE! for a meeting in session, OR choose Recordings and select the appropriate date

Citizen Input:

Laura Jo Severson - there is an Islands' Oil Spill Association (IOSA) Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) drill this Saturday, December 7 at the Lopez Center, 10:15 to 3:15; Seattle PI column by Joel Connelly entitled *Canada unprepared for oil spill in Strait of Juan de Fuca*, December 3, 2013, <http://blog.seattlepi.com/seattlepolitics/2013/12/03/canada-unprepared-for-oil-spill-in-strait-of-juan-de-fuca/>

Greg Ayers – feels the MRC has a unique opportunity to work with the County Council on the definition of a citizen advisory group and how it is managed; he notes that there is some level of community confusion around the role of the MRC also acting as the Salmon Citizens Advisory Group; Greg is not aware of documentation that the County Council actually made an official appointment stating that the Salmon Citizens Advisory Group is to be made up of MRC members; state code does not call it out; Greg recommends that the MRC ask the County Council to separate the two advisory groups for the following reasons:

- 1) Solves community question about which group does exactly what
- 2) Would create a more open forum by allowing community members who don't have time to serve on the MRC to serve on the Salmon Citizens Advisory Group
- 3) Provide clarity between the responsibilities and actions of both groups

Meeting Minutes: Greg – clearly demarcate separate meetings by making the minutes completely separate documents; Kathy seconded; 2 in favor; 2 abstentions; motion failed

Minutes of the November 20, 2013 MRC meeting were approved with Greg opposed and 1 abstention (Sam was not present at the last MRC meeting)

****Discussion/Action** – requested draft of MRC letter for County Council on Gateway Terminal

The proposed Gateway Terminal is subject to Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) review on 3 levels - US Corp of Engineers (federal), WA State Department of Ecology (state), and Whatcom County); the Corp has split

off from Ecology/Whatcom and is doing a separate process, thus there are two scoping documents, which are the result of extensive hearings and input from a variety of sources, including San Juan County; when each EIS is done, it must include the items listed in the scoping document; currently, neither scoping document includes SJC and our issues; construction of Gateway project would have major impacts to SJC; being included in the scoping documents establishes our legal right to be a party in these discussions, however must be listed in the scoping documents, cannot come in with issues after the documents are finalized; County Council asked MRC to write a letter saying the impacts on SJC must be included; this letter was sent to MRC members for their review

Laura – next step? Barbara B – if this letter is approved today by the MRC, it will be forwarded to County Council for their approval

Laura made a motion to approve this letter and forward it to County Council; Phil seconded; Greg abstained; motion passed with one abstention; Jamie thanked the MRC for this work

HPA Letter, *Greg Ayers* – MRC Policy Subcommittee drafted a letter, which is a culmination of comments from the public and MRC members; public comments came primarily from Kim Sundberg (Salmon Recovery TAG), Ed Kilduff, and Barbara R; comments are as follows:

- 1) Recommend changes to placement of hardscape ramp
- 2) Laura – reference in section 220-110-380 is unclear; should be clear that the HPA could be rejected if there is known habitat loss or risk of habitat loss

Greg – will amend

- 3) Laura – need clarity in the 3rd paragraph's reference to "As the Washington county with the greatest per-capita contributor of tax revenue to the state and where the impact of the HPA codes will be greatest, we request a WDFW Habitat Biologist be assigned full time to San Juan County..." Greg – should we remove this paragraph?

Susan K – CDPD is currently partnering with WDFW on a grant, as part of this project WDFW and CDPD analyzed which shoreline projects had either an HPA permit, a SJC permit, neither, or both and WDFW also analyzed if final project was completed to permit specs; data shows a significant number of projects that have neither permit, only one permit, or were larger than the permit specs; both SJC and WDFW have staffing limitations; I would recommend keeping the reference to the amount of shoreline and the need for increased WDFW staffing

Greg – recommends putting this in a separate letter

- 4) Barbara B – recommends that the letter says fish & their related habitat instead of just fish
Marta – the HPA language states "habitat that fish and shellfish depend upon"
- 5) Barbara B – has a concern about specifying site specific data

Greg – WDFW can currently use data that is not specific to that site to make a decision, and the letter asks that data be specific to the actual project sites

Barbara B – this would be too restrictive since there is often no data from an exact site, but there is data from similar sites that would apply

Greg – suggests adding a requirement for justification of why non-site specific data can be used

- 6) Barbara B – referring to section 220-110-080; equal or greater is what we want to support
Greg – the language suggested in the letter attempts to put limits so costs would not be excessive
Laura – suggests using "at least equal, or greater if possible"

Greg – made a motion that this letter be approved with the following changes; Barbara M seconded; motion passed with one abstention

- 1) Delete 3rd paragraph on page one, which asks for a WDFW Habitat Biologist to be assigned solely to the San Juans
- 2) Rewrite ramp section 220-110-380
- 3) Replace 'fish' or 'fish science' with 'fish and shellfish and their related habitat'
- 4) Site specific data will become site specific or justified use of non-site specific data
- 5) Keep reference to equal or greater in section 220-110-080

Greg – made a motion to take the 3rd paragraph on the first page relating to requesting more support from WDFW and write a separate letter with input from CDPD (Sam and Susan); reviewed by Policy Sub-Committee and brought to the full MRC; Kathy seconded; motion passed unanimously

Terry – thinks it is a good idea to emphasize the need for adequate WDFW staffing for SJC

Laura – note that WDFW can provide technical assistance, but their authority is different than that of the county; will discuss in Policy sub-committee while writing the letter

Barbara B – requests that all document authors insert a footer that includes the version and date so MRC members can track which version they have seen

Long Live the Kings Project, Sam Gibboney (Director, SJC Community Development & Planning Department) in lieu of Barbara R - the Salmon Recovery Board has reconsidered their Review Panel's eligibility concerns for the San Juan portion of the Marine Survival Project, given the following:

- As is noted, the San Juan portion of the project is part of a much larger effort to assess marine survival of juvenile salmonids in the Salish Sea. Low early marine survival is a significant issue and thus there is the need to better understand why the early marine survival issues are occurring in Puget Sound and also the Georgia Basin areas (Salish Sea).
- The Puget Sound region is highlighting the additional significant funding via the Pacific Salmon Commission's Southern Endowment Fund to support what is now a multi-year study and the funding that the San Juans had proposed to support the local portion of the project would provide some of the match needed for the larger transboundary funding efforts.
- The regional policy body, the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, supports the Salish Sea Marine Survival project and considers it the highest priority information gap needed to inform future recovery efforts.
- Additionally, the Puget Sound region has already provided some of their regional funding to support the larger Salish Sea Marine Survival project and certainly has a vested interest in seeing the project is properly funded and supported.

If the Salmon Recovery Funding Board chooses to reconsider the local Marine Survival Project we get the benefit of the additional review/discussion without having to risk our local funding in order to have that discussion occur with the SRF Board. Additionally, the rewritten proposal from October is much stronger since they received the Southern Endowment funding as it is now a multi-year study which was the main area of concern by the local Salmon Technical Advisory Group as the original project proposed this summer was only for one year. The concern with only one year of data was whether we would be able to make any management decisions based on only one year of data but now the results of the overall study will be much more robust.

Reports

- **County Council Liaison**, *Jamie Stephens* - attended the Ecosystem Coordinating Board meeting two weeks ago, which included three presentations on Long Live the Kings and the Marine Survival Project; local legislative priorities are going to PSP who will lobby the state legislature during the 2014 session; attended the Association of Counties meeting all last week so was unable to attend the NW Straits MRC Conference; every Monday the County Council is picking Shoreline Master Planning hot topics and discussing them and Jamie encourages early involvement by the MRC; for instance, we have inspections for houses, but have nothing like that for shoreline modifications (docks, bulkheads) and County Council is looking for options to ensure compliance with permit specs; data shows projects are sometimes built with no permits, or not built to plan and we need inspections before completion so that the finished project matches the permit
- **Tribal Liaison**, *TBA* – Terry Williams has been very ill and is recovering, thus progress has been slow; the person originally hired has moved to Alaska; they are identifying another candidate

Terry T (MRC) – tribes' resources are tight across the board

- **Port of Friday Harbor, Barbara Marrett** – the Port held a community meeting last night during which waterfront planners, architects, and sea wall engineers gave initial design concepts and asked for feedback (with clickers) for three phases (Spring Street, Park, Port building and parking areas); still waiting on one of the insurance companies who wants to look again at the foundation of Downriggers; anticipate begin rebuilding next September with a completion target of spring 2015; hope to simultaneously rebuild the sea wall and building/s, but timing for permits may alter this approach; next community meeting is mid-January 2014
Laura – what are the funding mechanisms in place? Barbara M – don't know yet what the insurance settlements will be; might have to put out a bond, however insurance does pay the Port for loss of rent from tenants
Susan K – architects are including LID options in planning; Barbara M – how much LID is included will depend upon funding
Marta – PSP is very interested in helping fund Port projects that include anything in our Action Agenda
Barbara M – the new building on NE corner of airport is the pilot welcome center; ribbon cutting ceremony tomorrow
- **Town of Friday Harbor, Johannes Krieger** – no report; Johannes had let Marta know he would be out of town
- **Subcommittees**
 - **Executive, Barbara Bentley, Chair** – sub-committee discussed the agenda for Jan 8 retreat; seriously considering hiring a facilitator for crafting 2014 Work Plan
 - **Policy, Kathy Dolsen, Chair:** Kathy watches Monday's County Council discussions of Shoreline Master Plan update, as does Laura; will discuss in future sub-committee meetings the best method for involving the MRC in the process
 - HPA Letter/Comments, Greg Ayers – see above
 - SMP Comments, Laura Arnold – some topics the MRC has focused on in the past are still very relevant; we can draw upon information the MRC has previously presented
 - **Science, Tom:** getting sub-committee organized and will report during the next meeting
 - **Outreach, Barbara M** – local members of the San Juan Islands Stewardship Network/ECONet are submitting proposals to use the Puget Sound Partnership's \$10K award to each local ECONet
Marta – the Puget Sound Starts Here campaign must be part of the proposal
Barbara M's last meeting as an MRC member is Dec 18
Kathy – may any MRC member attend the Stewardship Network/ECONet meetings?
Marta – yes, meetings are 3rd Wednesday @ 11:30
 - **NW Straits Liaison Meeting, Greg Ayers - Commission** – no report
Foundation – had a meeting at the annual conference; interviewed four potential new Foundation members
- **Staff, Marta Branch:**
 - Bios/pix for MRC website – please email both to Marta and they will be posted on the MRC website, www.sjcmrc.org;
Action Items: Marta will take photos after this meeting
 - SJC MRC Presentation from NW Straits 15th Annual MRC Conference – Marta will give SJC's PowerPoint presentation from the conference
 - Collect Volunteer Hours – Marta passed around sign in sheet; electronic version was sent to members
 - MRC Retreat – scheduled for January 8 at the Friday Harbor Labs, dining hall will be closed
 - Work Plan – will be completed during the retreat
 - LIO Action Agenda 2014 – MRC has two delegates for the LIO; Barbara B is one, Bob Wilson may have volunteered
Action Item: Marta will confirm with Bob that he is willing to be the 2nd MRC delegate to the LIO

- Action Agenda – 2013 State of the Sound Report is now available; contains all of our local Near Term Actions (NTAs) and a report card; SJC seems to be a bit ahead of the curve due to our NTAs getting in by deadline and being accepted by the Puget Sound Partnership, which puts us nicely in line for funding proposals; attended yesterday’s regional Lead Entity Coordinator meeting, discussion of the importance of tying funding requests directly to our local Action Agenda and the extra points for doing so

Action Item: Marta will send the link for the 2013 State of the Sound Report

Barbara M – what are the mechanisms to pursue funding for Port of Friday Harbor Phase 1-3 projects?

Jamie – will discuss with Scott Williamson (PSP regional coordinator); tribes may also have a bit of funding; would need to fit into local Action Agenda, likely through stormwater

Review of NW Straits Conference, Barbara Bentley- the 2nd day of concurrent sessions, which are smaller discussion and action based, were very useful; opportunities to network and find funding were also important; NOAA has reorganized and the administrator for the Western Region attended the conference

Action Item: Marta will send link to conference presentations

Marta – if you have expenses that need to be reimbursed, please get receipts and travel voucher claim to her

SJC MRC Presentation, NW Straits 15th Annual MRC Conference – given by Marta

Barbara B – noted a recent article about the importance and effectiveness of marine reserves in New York Times opinion page; Barbara M – have proved very successful around the world, but are politically difficult to carve out; Barbara B – noted that all of SJC is a Marine Stewardship Area, which is voluntary, and we can build on that

Marine Managers’ Workshop, Barbara Bentley – we will discuss focus and timing at the MRC retreat

Laura – we need to schedule an Executive Sub-committee meeting immediately following the Dec 18 MRC meeting

Barbara M – wants to pass the torch for MRC Outreach Sub-Committee

Citizen Input: Jamie would urge MRC members to participate in the County Council’s Monday meetings on the Shoreline Master Plan update

Laura – Policy Sub-Committee would need to meet ahead of time, bring to full MRC, and then participate in Monday County Council meetings; Laura and Kathy are willing to do this, and Greg will join in

The MRC will convene again at the December 18 meeting, 8:30 am at the SJC Legislative Hearing Room.

Adjourn MRC Meeting: the meeting was adjourned by *Barbara Bentley, Chair* at 10:28 am

Minutes Submitted by *Susan Key*

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date	Event	Location	Time
2013-12-6	Salmon Advisory Board (State)	Edmonds, WA	10:00-14:00
	Land Bank/SJ Preservation Trust Open House	Historic Churchill House 468 Argyle Ave.	15:00-17:00
	Tree Lighting Ceremony; followed by The Whale Museum	Whale Museum	15:00? And on....

	open house		
2013-12-7	Whale Museum—Artists and Author’s Event	Whale Museum Gift Shop	11:00-15:00
	Annual Christmas Party at National Park English Camp with Contra Dancing	SJI-English Camp Barracks; bring cookies to share	13:00-15:00
2013-12-9	Ghost Tour by Robin Jacobsen	The Whale Museum	18:00
2013-12-10	Sea Doc Lecture/Dinner	Camp Orkila, Orcas Island	17:00-20:00
2013 12-15	Lime Kiln Light House & Light Keeper’s Open House tours to top of light house, tour of Light Keepers residence/hot chocolate, cookies	Lime Kiln State Park, San Juan Island	13:00-16:00
2013-12-18	San Juan Stewardship Meeting; Potluck	Whidbey Island Bank	11:30 – 13:30
2014-1-8	MRC Meeting/Retreat	Friday Harbor Labs	All day
2014-1-15	LIO Implementation Committee meeting	Town of Friday Harbor Fire Hall Meeting Room	11:30- 13:00