



san juan county  
marine stewardship area  
our sea • our source • our future

**SAN JUAN COUNTY**  
**MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**  
(360) 317-6467



## **Agenda and Minutes**

**April 3-4 Marine Managers' Workshop**

**April 5 - There was no April MRC meeting on this normally scheduled date**

**May 3 - Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group Meeting Project Ranking**

**May 17 - Special Meeting of MRC and Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group**

**June 7 - MRC and Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group**

**Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group,  
Watershed Regional Inventory Area (WRIA) #2 Salmon Recovery Presentations Meeting  
Wednesday May 3, 2017  
Islander's Bank Administrative Building  
545 Park Street, Friday Harbor WA 98250**

**In Attendance:** Doug Thompson – WDFW, Paul Schlenger – SRFB, Arnie Klaus – SJCMRC, Tom Slocum – SRFB, Laura Jo Severson – SJCMRC, Phil Green - SJCMRC, Gene Helfman – TAG, Judy Meyer – TAG, Chandler Colahan (notes) – SJCMRC, Dan Calvert – PSP, Mindy Rowse – NOAA/ NWFSC, Tom Temple – SJCMRC, Ray Glaze – TAG, Ken Carrasco – SJCMRC, David Tribolet – SJCMRC, Kim Sundberg – TAG, Terry Turner – SJCMRC, Craig Wingert – SJCMRC, Barbara Bentley - SJCMRC, Todd Zackey – Tulalip Tribes/TAG, Mike Ramsey – RCO/SRFB, Tina Whitman – FSJ, Kendra Smith – SJCPW, Linda Lyshall – SJICD, Byron Rot - San Juan County Salmon Recovery Coordinator, Samantha Sprenger – SJICD, Russel Barsh – Kwiaht

**Convene Salmon Recovery Presentations Meeting:** Meeting called to order at 8:45am by Byron Rot, Salmon Recovery Coordinator for San Juan County.

**Citizen Input:** N/A

**Introduction – Byron Rot:**

Byron began the meeting by introducing speakers and proposed projects. There are four proposed projects: The Deer Harbor Nearshore Habitat Restoration Feasibility Study proposed by Samantha Springer of the San Juan Islands Conservation District, the Pacific Sand Lance Ecology, Recruitment, and Vulnerabilities Monitoring Project proposed by Russel Barsh of Kwiaht, the San Juan Islands Shoreline Assessment and Design SRFB Pre-proposal Project proposed by Samantha Sprenger of the San Juan Islands Conservation District, and the Mud Bay, Sucia Island Salt Marsh Restoration Project proposed by Tina Whitman of Friends of the San Juans.

**Project Proposal Presentation Summaries:**

***“Deer Harbor Nearshore Habitat Restoration Feasibility Study”* presented by Samantha Sprenger, San Juan Islands Conservation District:**

This project will focus on conducting a feasibility study to remove wood waste in Deer Harbor, WA. The study will look at the area south of the Channel Road Bridge on the eastern edge of the estuary in Deer Harbor on Orcas Island. The goal of this project is to better understand the total volume and potential toxicity of the wood waste present on the property, and to use this information to inform a nearshore restoration design. The site has

an estimated 22,000 cubic feet of debris one to three feet deep, covered in silt, some along the shoreline. There is further information needed, such as determining if the wood waste is toxic, what the actual volume of wood waste is at the site, what the cost for removal will be, where the wood waste will be dumped, and what replacement materials will be used. There are eelgrass beds in the area, and information from fish catch surveys done from 2006-2009 show many different species living there, including chum, pink, and surf smelt populations among others. This study will also expand on restoration work that has already been done in Deer Harbor. Primary project sponsor will be the San Juan Islands Conservation District, with the secondary sponsor being Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group. Estimated costs for this project: \$35,000 from salmon state projects, \$10,000 in matched funds from state grants = \$45,000 total funds.

*Discussion:* There was a short question and answer session following the presentation.

Question: Is there known forage fish spawning in the eelgrass beds?

Tina Whitman: Samples have been taken in the east and west sides of the lagoon, and no known forage fish spawning has been identified there.

Question: What is the origin of the wood waste? Is wood waste still being recruited? And is it known if the wood waste is chemically treated?

Samantha: The site used to be an old mill site. No one is sure if the wood was pressure treated.

Question: Why wouldn't the Conservation District base this project on what was learned from the Thatcher Bay restoration project?

Tina Whitman: The TAG said a feasibility study needs to be done first. Also, projects are site specific, and it matters how each individual site is cleaned up. It is important to not only find out the toxicity of the wood waste, but also what specific benefits there could be for salmon.

Question: Would the property owner have to remove docks/buildings/infrastructure for this project?

Samantha: Yes.

Question: Is this site a candidate for a biological survey site?

Samantha: No, the owner talks about the site as a "dead zone."

Byron noted that the old bridge on the property was lengthened. There used to be a sill underneath the bridge to block silt, but that was replaced with burlap bags filled with gravel as a barrier that will degrade and let the silt out gradually, so the channel will change over time.

Question: What clean up methods are being considered for this project?

Samantha: Potential methods will be identified during study to determine wood waste toxicity.

Question: What is the owner anticipating in terms of moving or removing structures from his property?

Samantha: This is a good question for the owner (Michael Durland, owner of Deer Harbor Boat Works.)

Question: Besides toxicity, are there any other resources data of what is there?

Samantha: This study will focus on wood waste, water quality, what is at the site now, and what the current impacts are.

Question: What are the expected benefits of this project?

Samantha: The project will act to remove toxins from wood waste and lessen the impact of contamination on farmed oysters.

Question: Is this project contained all in one parcel of land? What are the benefits/ risks for surrounding parcels?

Samantha: The project is contained all in one parcel.

Comment: It would be easy to do shellfish transects down the beach to see what the current health of shellfish is in terms of wood waste in the area. Tissue samples of the shellfish could identify toxins.

Comment: There needs to be more detail in the proposed budget.

Question: Is the Deer Harbor Boat Works yard commercial?

Samantha: Yes.

Comment: A suggestion was made to scan for heavy metals to make sure it is not an issue, then decide on wood waste disposal methods. Wood is anoxic, not toxic. It sucks up any oxygen in the water, and acts as an oxygen sink. Get the wood waste out to bring back organisms.

Question: How does this wood waste affect the sediment?

Samantha: We aren't exactly sure.

Linda noted that the San Juan Islands Conservation District was asked to work on this project. The TAG needs to decide if this project is a good fit for funding.

***“Pacific Sand Lance: Ecology, Recruitment, Vulnerabilities”* presented by Russel Barsh, director of Kwiaht:**

This project is a monitoring project that will focus on learning what the roll of Pacific sand lance is in the South Lopez ecosystem ecology. Kwiaht has been a partner of the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project since 2013. Since 2009, Kwiaht’s role includes 24 days/year of zooplankton tows and salmon seining at Waldron and Lopez Islands. The Waldron sampling station tends to pick up Fraser River origins chinook salmon, and the Lopez station tends to pick up Puget Sound origins chinook. Kwiaht also sees enormous numbers of sand lance from the Lopez sampling station. South Lopez is a very significant spot for Puget Sound sand lance and juvenile chinook. It is also a major feeding ground for bird species of concern and several marine mammals. Birds and salmon are both eating Pacific sand lance. Diet studies have shown that sand lance and herring tie for the top rate of consumption by juvenile chinook. There have been some changes. 2009 was a cold cycle, and 2017 has been a warm cycle. Consumption of sand lance dominates in cold cycle years, and herring dominates in warm cycle years. Last year there was a dramatic drop in Pacific sand lance, followed by a die off of sea birds that rely on Pacific sand lance as prey. This is an alarm bell for salmon. There are seven years of data on what chinook are eating, we don’t know what their prey field is for Pacific sand lance and herring. We can’t understand how the abundance of Pacific sand lance is driven by primary productivity unless we further study the prey field. We need to ask what activities affect the recruitment of Pacific sand lance, and where is the species vulnerable? For now, Kwiaht will not be looking at temperature effects, but they will look at competition for planktonic prey, predation, and habitat loss. The study will look at what Pacific sand lance and herring eat, where they spawn and develop, and Pacific sand lance are all one big population. The study will look at Pacific sand lance spawning populations genetics to see if there are different populations. The study will be a three-year baseline study looking at gut content analysis, genotyping, ichthyoplankton timing and distribution, and toxic loading in Pacific sand lance. Estimated costs for this project: \$74,345 funds from SRFB, \$56,605 in matched funds = \$130,950 total.

*Discussion:* There was a short question and answer session following the presentation.

Question: Will the genetic sampling be from seining or beach data or both?

Russel: Both.

Question: How does this build on work that’s already been done?

Russel: This study will look at multiple water depths for spawning. It will also look beyond beaches for spawning habitat protection.

Question: Why not use grab sampling methods?

Russel: With grab sampling, you are gambling that you will catch fish that are spawning or about to spawn. It is not an efficient sampling method. Genetics are a more robust way to

detect differences in spawning populations or spawning triggers at multiple depths.

Question: How will link juveniles with spawning on the bottom?

Russel: We can't directly, but different times or different depths will suggest different populations through genetic testing.

Question: Will this study look at drift and how Pacific sand lance move in surface waters?

Russel: Genotyping will help in determining if they segregate when they recruit and how large drift areas might be for various populations.

Question: How is this study relevant to chinook?

Russel: If we find there is a seesaw of prey between Pacific sand lance and herring, then there may not be a problem. Other work has looked at salmon that were eating invertebrates in other south sound sample areas. Salmon don't eat much fish till they get to the San Juan Islands. This area may be where juvenile chinook are beginning to eat fish. We're looking at a different life history stage of salmon here in the San Juan Islands.

***“San Juan Islands Shoreline Assessment and Design SRFB Pre-Proposal” presented by Samantha Sprenger, San Juan Islands Conservation District:***

This project will focus on identifying potential restoration projects on previously developed shoreline properties in San Juan County that will benefit salmon and forage fish, specifically rearing juvenile chinook salmon, coho, chum, sand lance, and surf smelt. This project is a Near Term Action (NTA) in the Action Agenda. Data from the PIAT (Putting It All Together) database shows that in San Juan County, there are 1.5 miles of armored known spawn habitat shoreline, and 15 mile of armored potential spawn habitat shoreline. The project will happen in two phases. Phase I will be to provide outreach to interested property owners, conduct site assessments, and identify potential restoration projects. Phase II will be to employ an engineer to develop designs and specifications for restoration projects. Estimated costs for this project: \$54,500 in funds from Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB), \$37,000 in matched funds from other state grants = \$91,500 in total funds.

*Discussion:* There was a short question and answer session following the presentation.

Question: How will you deal with distrust of government agencies by property owners?

Linda Lyshall: Property owners in San Juan County prefer working with the San Juan Islands Conservation District (SJICD), that has been documented. Susan Key did a survey that showed property owners did not want to work with the county of Friends of the San Juans. There is a niche for SJICD to work with property owners.

Comment: Some members of the audience would like more reassurance that property owners who have illegal permits or who are not permitted will cooperate in this project.

Comment: There needs to be a better summary on Phase I in the proposal. There should be more focus to show how it builds on work that has already been done.

Question: Is there preemptive planning to prevent armoring included in the project proposal?

Linda: This proposal is for restoration projects.

Question: What is the relation of this project to the Northwest Straits Foundation restoration project?

Linda: There is plenty of work for everyone! The SJICD is trying to collaborate with them.

Comment: This is an ambitious proposal. It has a lot of overlap with work that is already being done. How will you gauge sincerity of owners who want a site assessment and how that will move to actions of restoration?

Linda: If the owner's intent is to protect structures on their property, does it matter? It will still benefit salmon. The list of owners who have called the SJICD is getting longer.

Byron: Funding is limited, but there does need to be more effort in the field in San Juan County.

***“Mud Bay, Sucia Island Salt Marsh Restoration”* presented by Tina Whitman, science director of Friends of the San Juans:**

This project will focus on restoring salt marsh, tidal channel, and beach processes and habitats for juvenile salmon and forage fish. There is a 300-foot armored road that blocks a 2.2 acre salt marsh and its 200 ft. main channel from the nearshore marine environment. The narrow perched culvert limits passage of fish and nutrients, and impacts 300 ft. of documented surf smelt spawning habitat. Water comes in at high tide and gets stuck behind the culvert. There are also road trails used by the public on the marsh. The shoreform of the project site is pocket beach habitat. It is key habitat for forage fish, rearing juvenile chinook, and documented spawning. This project is the right action at the right location. The design of the project does not include channel work in the marsh, just removal of the road and culvert and new beach nourishment, and letting the marsh respond naturally. There will be a new connector road with an 8ft. culvert. Some trees will have to come out for the connector road. The project will require barges for equipment, detailed cost reports, and other reports. The project's scope of work includes final design, permitting, interpretive paneling, pre-project surveys and monitoring, construction of new connector road segment, removal of culvert, road fill and armor, and beach nourishment, and an as built survey. Important outcomes of this project include addressing top stressors in San Juan County like salmon recovery and shoreline armoring, full restoration of the area and sea level rise resiliency, outreach and education opportunities, and longevity. Estimated costs for this project: \$389,922 in funds for construction costs, \$43,700 in funds

for AA&E, \$36,917 in funds for indirect costs = \$470,539 total. \$399,958 in funds would be requested from SRFB funds, and \$70,581 would be matched funds.

*Discussion:* There was a short question and answer session following the presentation.

Question: Where is the waste from this project going to be disposed of?

Tina: The concrete will be recycled in Skagit County, some of the fill will be used to create the new road, the trees that will be cut down will stay on the island, and all other manmade waste goes off the island.

Question: Will the walking trail to the beach be cut off?

Tina: We're looking at that. There are plenty of other places to walk.

Question: Will there be more sediment flow into Mud Bay because of the project?

Tina: Accumulated sediment has not been an issue at the location and is not predicted to become an issue.

Question: Have other sites been referenced for this project's design?

Tina: Yes, we looked at similar projects in San Juan County, and also historical studies for this site.

Comment: This project aligns well with PIAT goals and priorities.

Question: What is the expectation for water levels at various tides after the project is completed?

Tina: We will open up the channels, then wait and see.

Question: This is one of twelve barriers for fish passage in state parks. The state is required to fix those. Have you inquired about partnering?

Tina: This project is the lowest priority of the twelve sites. It is not a priority area because it is not a spawning area. Friends of the San Juans will take the project further along than the state will.

Question: Are there special design considerations for this project, like sea level rise?

Tina: This area is out of the range of immediate concern for sea level rise, but the final design will refine the specifications.

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:02am**



# SAN JUAN COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE Special MEETING AGENDA



**Wednesday, May 17, 2017**

**9:30 -11:30 AM**

**Orcas Landing County Meeting Room**

**Orcas Landing Ferry Ticker Office - Lower Level**

**9:30 AM**            **Convene MRC Meeting** *Terry Turner, Chair*

**9:40 AM**            **Introductions**

Rich Childer, Director of the Northwest Straits Commission

Kendra Smith, Director of San Juan County Environmental Resources

**9:50 AM**            **Staff Report - Project and Budget update**

**10:00 AM**           **Frequently Hit Rocks – Laminated Handout**

**10:10 AM**           **Marine Manager’s Workshop Follow-up**

**10:20 AM**           **Orcas Landing Experience – Expanding the project area stormwater function and exhibit planning process.**

**10:30 AM**           **Update on San Juan County Council request to the MRC to facilitate ways to address issues concerning the Southern Resident Killer Whales.**

**10:45 AM**           **ACTION ITEM: Discussion, modifications and approval of the Work Plan for the annual MRC Grant Proposal to the Northwest Straits Commission.**

1. Operations
2. Database crowdsourcing for a baseline understanding of the Marine environment
3. Facilitate dialogue and action items to protect the Southern Resident Killer Whales
4. Facilitate Restoration Projects on County marine related owned property
5. Creating Educational Destinations and experiences – Orcas Landing Experience Project

**11:30 AM**           **Adjourn MRC Meeting**

## Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date	Event	Location	Time
6/7/2017	Marine Resource Committee Meeting	Islanders Bank – Friday Harbor	8:30 AM – 8:50 AM
	Salmon Citizen’s Advisory Group Meeting	Islanders Bank – Friday Harbor	8:50 AM – 10:45 AM

**Marine Resources Committee – San Juan County For more information contact: Arnie Klaus**

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**SAN JUAN COUNTY**

**MARINE RESOURCES Committee (MRC) and Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, May 17, 2017, 9:30 – 11:30am**

**Orcas Landing Meeting Room**

**Orcas, WA**

**Members Present:** Terry Turner, Tom Temple, David Tribolet, Phil Green, Barbara Bentley, Ken Carrasco, Craig Wingert, Laura Jo Severson, Kendra Smith (Public Works Environmental Resources)

**Members Absent:** Bob Wilson, Megan Deither, David Tribolet

**Staff:** Arnie Klaus - Marine Resources Coordinator

**Citizens in Attendance:** Bruce Weber, Rich Childers (Director of the Northwest Straits Commission)

**Convene MRC Meeting:** Terry Turner, chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

**Citizen Input** – Rich Childers (Director of the Northwest Straits Commission) reported that he went to Washington DC for the Puget Sound Days meetings on Capitol Hill. He emphasized the need to have programs and projects that create jobs and show results toward protecting marine resources.

**Presentation** - Bruce Myers is a local artist that does functional stormwater, trail and transportation art installations presented examples of his work and concepts for the Orcas Landing Experience. Later he emphasized that there are some primary granting opportunities that may be able to support the Orcas Landing program.

**Discussion on scheduling** meeting times and days that do not conflict with other meetings (Stewardship Network on San Juan Island) and align with ferry schedules. Concern was expressed on having mid-month meetings, short notice of meetings and the need to rely more on telephonic or webcast conferences. Stewardship Network meetings.

**Action:** Terry, Kendra and Arnie will come up as a process.

**Discussion: Frequently Hit Rocks laminated handout.** Terry updated map but there was concern that the scale of the map is too small and there is too much information to put on one sheet. Other comments were having an effective message on the backside especially calling out the five Marine Protection Areas. Information should be updated, include information for kayakers, give reference to the website and numbers for Vessel Assist and the Coast Guard.

**Discussion: Marine Managers Workshop.** There was a need to share more of the ideas that came out of the Workshop. Barbara shared that she is putting together a whitepaper on pulling together a database to address primary baseline issues beyond the topics of the Workshop including fish farms, tidal generation. An example of an existing database is the one maintained by US department of Fish and Wildlife on Pinto Abalone and Sea Cucumber. It could address broader issue of geospatial data and the role of the MRC.

**Discussion: Orcas Landing Experience – Expanding the project area stormwater function and exhibit planning process.** Kendra Smith presented a proposal to integrate a stormwater function into the Orcas Landing site. Barbara expressed that this is an integration of win-win-win situation.

Opportunity to educate is deliverable. Lucas worked with Jefferson MRC interpretation. Design a survey from Lucas. Before restoration. Barbara, Lucas and Arnie on data.

**Discussion: Update on San Juan County Council request to the MRC to facilitate ways to address issues concerning the Southern Resident Killer Whales.** In reviewing the County Council meeting videos it was interpreted that the Council is asking for a scope of work that may include a series of meetings involving stakeholders in which issues and actions identified. This could include exploring a range of alternative for locally implemented plan of voluntary actions. The initial session can help clarify the perspectives of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and what can we do locally and what is the appropriate context. There was discussion on the County's capacity and jurisdiction regarding a federally protected species. There was concern that some of this reporting may already is underway with a recent publication by SeaDoc. One comment was that this isn't about science it is politics and policy. NOAA is offering inroads for the County Council to play a role. Looking for the social and political ways to resolve this. Barbara Bentley proposed formulating a white paper.

**ACTION ITEM: Discussion, modifications and approval of the Work Plan for the annual MRC Grant Proposal to the Northwest Straits Commission.**

Laura Jo moved to: Support the submitting the action plan proposal to Northwest Straits Commission (NWSC) annual MRC Grant Process. Tom Temple Seconded the Motion. Unanimous approval.



**SAN JUAN COUNTY**  
**MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**  
AND  
**CITIZEN'S SALMON ADVISORY GROUP**  
MEETING AGENDAS

**Wednesday, June 7, 2017**  
**8:30-10:30 AM**

**Legislative Hearing Room**  
**55 Second Street - Friday Harbor, WA**

8:30 AM	<b>Convene MRC Meeting</b> <i>Terry Turner, Chair</i>
8:35 AM	<b>Citizen Input</b>
<b>**8:40 AM**</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5/17/17</li> </ul>
8:40 AM	Presentation on <b>San Juan Action Agenda Oversight Group Ecosystem Protection and Recovery Plan</b> - Marta Green, San Juan County LIO Coordinator
9:15 AM	Orcas Landing Experience – Expanding the project area stormwater function, pedestrian access and exhibit planning process
9:30 AM	Update on San Juan County Council request to the Environmental Resources Department and the MRC to facilitate ways to address issues concerning the Southern Resident Killer Whales.
9:50 AM	Work Plan for the MRC Grant Proposal to the Northwest Straits Commission.
10:15 AM	Marine Manager's Workshop Follow-up
10:00 AM	<b>Questions/Citizen Input</b>
10:05 AM	<b>Adjourn MRC Meeting</b>
<i>See reverse of page for Salmon Citizen Advisory Group Agenda, and upcoming events Calendar</i>	

**Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group**  
**Watershed Regional Inventory Area (WRIA) #2**  
**Agenda—6/07/17**

10:05 AM**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Convene Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group Meeting</b> <i>Terry Turner, Chair</i> <i>Salmon CAG; **5/3/17 Minutes</i></li> </ul>
10:05 AM	<b>Citizen Input</b>
10:10 AM**	<b>Update on Projects</b> - <i>Byron Rot - Sent out June 1, 2017</i>
10:25 AM	<b>Citizen Input</b>
10:30 AM	<b>Adjourn Salmon Advisory Group Meeting, Chair</b>

**Upcoming Meetings/Events**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Time</b>
7/5/2017	Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group	San Juan Island – Islander's Bank	8:30 – 10:30AM
8/03/2017	LIO Meeting	San Juan Island – Islander's Bank	11:00 – 1:15AM

*(MRC meeting, see reverse of the page)*

**SAN JUAN COUNTY**

**MARINE RESOURCES Committee (MRC) and Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, June 7, 2017, 8:30 – 10:30am**

**Legislative Hearing Room**

**55 Second Street, Friday Harbor, WA**

**Members Present:** Terry Turner – chair, Tom Temple, David Tribolet, Phil Green, Kendra Smith, Barbara Bentley, Ken Carrasco, Craig Wingardt, Laura Jo Severson

**Members Absent:** Patti Gobin, Megan Dethier, Bob Wilson

**Staff:** Arnie Klaus (MRC Coordinator), Chandler Colahan (minutes)

**Citizens in Attendance:** Sandra Chalk

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

**Convene MRC Meeting:** Terry Turner, chair, called the meeting to order at 8:33am.

**Citizen Input – N/A**

**\*\*Approval of Minutes:** Marine Resources Committee Meeting from May 17, 2017. A motion to approve minutes was made by Barbara, seconded by Laura Jo. Minutes approved unanimously.

**Presentations – *San Juan Action Agenda Oversight Group Ecosystem Protection and Recovery Plan - Marta Green, San Juan County LIO Coordinator.*** Marta gave background information about the local integrating organization (LIO.) The San Juan Local Integrating Organization (SJ-LIO), also known in San Juan County as the Action Agenda Oversight Group (AAOG), is one of nine LIOs, recognized by the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) with the goal of “overseeing the restoration of environmental health of Puget Sound by 2020.” The San Juan LIO (AAOG) brings together numerous existing committees, governmental and non-government organizations, county agencies, tribes, and local watershed groups that coordinate actions to protect and restore the San Juan Islands’ ecosystem. Together, representatives from these organizations set priorities, design local near-term actions, locate and coordinate funds to implement those actions. These actions then become a part of the PSP’s Action Agenda, which is essentially a “road map” to Puget Sound recovery. Right now, the LIO is finalizing the Ecosystem Protection and Recovery Plan (EPRP), which will run through 2022. This plan focuses on ecosystem recovery in San Juan County and will have four main areas of focus: shoreline hardening, stormwater management, fresh water restoration, and vessel traffic and oil spill impacts. The LIO is meeting today to finalize the plan so the plan can be presented to PSP. The vision of this plan is “community stewardship sustains a healthy and productive ecosystem.” There is a lot to

protect in San Juan County. The EPRP looks at key threats and pressures and goals of the ecosystem in San Juan County. The LIO is hoping that local actions for local priorities will benefit the ecosystem. Marta reviewed the plan's strategies.

*Vessel traffic:* The goals of the EPRP pertaining to risks of increased vessel traffic include the creation of a transboundary safety forum, added spill prevention measures, effective spill response planning and capacity, and supporting additional protection of habitat and threatened and endangered species from vessel traffic.

*Shoreline hardening:* The goals of the EPRP pertaining to shoreline hardening include residential bulkhead removal, and the promotion of avoidance of shoreline armoring.

*Stormwater management:* The goals of the EPRP pertaining to stormwater management include having treatment in place for Friday Harbor and urban growth areas (UGAs) to protect water quality.

*Fresh water restoration:* The goals of the EPRP pertaining to fresh water restoration include augmenting summer low flows and restoring physical habitat in priority watersheds.

Proposed near term actions (NTAs) will help San Juan County achieve the goals of the EPRP. There were many NTAs proposed to the PSP for the Action Agenda, and the top three NTAs have been funded through National Estuary Program (NEP) funds. Each of the top three NTAs will receive \$50K to move forward. The SJ-LIO has not received a lot of funding, but did receive \$100K for implementation. It is important that San Juan County continues to voice the importance of protection. There are some gaps and barriers including a lack of transboundary vessel traffic coordination, a lack of incentives for armoring, funding, and climate change.

MRC members asked Marta how the MRC would be most useful to the LIO. Marta said it is important to make sure there is no overlap in efforts. The MRC should also let Marta and the LIO know what the MRC needs.

**Orcas Landing Experience Update:** Arnie gave an update on the project. He will be presenting information about the project to the Northwest Straits. The Northwest Straits suggests that the MRC do a structured pre-survey survey to see what people want to see from the exhibits at the Orcas Landing. Kendra gave an update on stormwater function at the Orcas Landing. There is a catch basin for the area near the corner of Orcas Hill Road, and from there it drains to a catch basin near the ferry dock, then discharges under the ferry ramp. Currently, there is no way to separate the oil from the water that gets discharged. San Juan County will be reaching out to WA DOT to have a conversation with them about cleaning their catch basins, especially in the "high car habitat" areas. Some portion of the site gets pretreated, but there are more opportunities for improvements to be made. There needs to be a dedicated street sweeper for this. Revegetation is also a component of the Orcas Landing Experience. Working with the Youth Conservation Corps., there will be removal of non-native vegetation, including ivy.

Arnie reported that he is still waiting on the architect for plans. A proposal package will be made, and sent out to funding sources.

**Update on Southern Resident Killer Whale (SRKW) Protection Zone proposal:** Arnie reported that he and Kendra presented follow up information to county council about local strategies San Juan County can take to help recover SRKW. He is also working on a grant proposal for funding from the Northwest Straits Commission for this issue. They proposed the continuation of three workshops with themes relating to the SRKW. Kendra also reported that the issue of how to facilitate coordination between WDFW, Soundwatch, and NOAA came up in the conversation. Enforcement and public education were also discussed. There will be a stakeholder meeting this fall to discuss short term and long term solutions. Until then, there are things that can be done to help recovery efforts, such as revamping the “Be Whale Wise” signs and maps to include the voluntary whale protection zone already in place. It was also suggested adding this information to apps boaters use. There was some discussion about connecting with other cities and partners in the area about SRKW recovery efforts. Jamie Stephens noted that the county council asked for a white paper about this issue because these ideas need to be organized so that county council can see what further actions need to be taken. Funding is an issue too. Barbara Bentley will be working on a white paper on this. Kendra reported that NOAA is thrilled that San Juan County wants to take a local approach to this issue. That has added value to NOAA’s decision making process. When the issue of a mandatory whale protection zone on the west side of San Juan Island first came up years ago, there was a lot of pushback from the community. NOAA responds to that because local enforcement is challenging when there is little support. San Juan County Council is going to contact the Pacific Whale Watch Association (PWWA) and have them reach out to whale watch operators in Canada.

**Marine Managers’ Workshop Follow-up:** Arnie reported that he would like some help from MRC members getting bills and thank you notes written and sent out.

**Citizen Input:** Laura Jo introduced Sandra Chalk to MRC members and let everyone know that Sandra is excited to get to know what the MRC does and will be attending future meetings.

**MRC Meeting Adjourned at 10:19am**

**Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group,**

**Watershed Regional Inventory Area (WRIA) #2 Meeting**

**Wednesday June 7, 2017**

**CAG Meeting called to order at 10:20am by Terry Turner**

**Citizen Input:** N/A

\*Motion to approve meeting minutes from the May 3, 2017 meeting was made by David, seconded by Laura Jo. Minutes were approved by seven members, abstained by one.

**Update:** Kendra reported on behalf of Byron. There are only two proposed projects that the TAG will be looking at for funding – The Kwiaht project that looks at Pacific sand lance ecology, recruitment, and vulnerabilities, and the Friends of the San Juans project that focuses on Mud Bay salt marsh restoration on Sucia Island. San Juan County needs to make sure it is the gold standard as the example of ecosystems for salmon. There needs to be a bigger pipeline of projects for salmon recovery in San Juan County. There is plenty of work to be done, but we don't have as much local expertise as we need due to San Juan Island's remote location. PIAT work will lay out where priority restoration sites will be for projects. Kendra would like everyone working on these issues to keep her informed of what projects are so she can pursue funding in a more strategic way with a solid list of projects ready to go.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:37am.**

