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



Wednesday, August 2, 2017
8:30-10:30 AM

Legislative Hearing Room
55 Second Street - Friday Harbor, WA

Marine Resources Committee - AGENDA

8:30 AM	Convene MRC Meeting <i>Terry Turner, Chair</i>
8:35 AM	Citizen Input
8:40 AM	Approval of Minutes 7/5/17
8:45 AM	Presentation – Will King Dispersants - Currently, the county is considered a “Case-by-Case” dispersant-approval zone for marine waters deeper than 60 feet. A literature review was conducted to provide scientific information and recommendations that can help decision makers make informed, locally relevant decisions regarding dispersants. The goal is for the San Juan County Council to adopt the policy statement, based on the recommendation of the MRC, and to bring the policy statement to the Council’s congressional delegation for endorsement.
9:30 AM	Northwest Straits Commission Representative Acknowledgement and Selection
9:40 AM	Northwest Straits Commission grant funding update
9:45 AM	Sub-committee & Staff Reports – Setting up meetings and timelines Southern Resident Killer Whales Orcas Landing Exhibit Design Membership Budgeting
10:15 AM	Letter Requesting Continued County Support for MRC Coordinator Position
10:20 AM	Questions/Citizen Input
10:25 AM	Adjourn MRC Meeting

Salmon Citizen’s Advisory Group - AGENDA

Watershed Regional Inventory Area (WRIA) #2

10:25 AM	Convene Salmon Citizen’s Advisory Group Meeting <i>Terry Turner, Chair</i>
	Approval of Minutes 7/5/17
	Citizen Input
10:30 AM	Adjourn Salmon Advisory Group Meeting, <i>Chair</i>

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date	Event	Location	Time
8/03/2017	LIO Meeting	San Juan Island – Islander’s	11:00 – 1:15AM
9/06/2017	MRC & Salmon Citizen’s Advisory Group	SJ County Council Chambers	8:30 – 10:30AM

SAN JUAN COUNTY

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

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 2, 2017, 8:30 – 10:30am

Legislative Hearing Room

55 Second Street, Friday Harbor, WA

Members Present: Terry Turner – chair, Tom Temple, Phil Green, Kendra Smith, Ken Carrasco, Craig Wingert, Laura Jo Severson, Megan Dethier

Members Absent: Patti Gobin, Barbara Bentley

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

Citizens in Attendance: Sandra Chalk, Marta Green, Will King, Sonia Larson, Rich Childers, Brian McDonald, Randall Waugh, Stephanie Buffum, Gary Maclay

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

Convene MRC Meeting: Terry Turner, chair, called the meeting to order at 8:36am.

Citizen Input – Marta Green, Puget Sound Recovery Coordinator for San Juan County, introduced Will King and explained funding for his research and for upcoming local near tern actions (NTAs.) The San Juan County Local Integrating Organization (LIO) received federal funds through the National Estuary Program (NEP) for this research. The SJ LIO can expect another \$100K for FY2017 to support a local NTA. Marta reminded MRC members that the MRC has a NTA that qualifies for those funds. She will let members know what needs to be pulled together before the decision on which NTA will be funded will be made next month.

Stephanie Buffum, executive director of Friends of the San Juans, reported that the Coast Guard has extended the comment period for making new anchorages to Aug. 9th. She suggested the MRC have a subcommittee meeting on this before then. She also noted that the Friends of the San Juans is pushing for a full environmental impact study before making any final decisions.

****Approval of Minutes:** Marine Resources Committee Meeting from July 5, 2017. A motion to approve minutes was made by Megan, seconded by Laura Jo. Minutes approved unanimously.

Presentation – “Oil Dispersants in San Juan County Marine Waters” – Will King, Friday Harbor Labs. Will King presented his study on potential impacts from use of oil dispersants on oil spills in San Juan County. When oil spills occur, the environment will never fully recover. The Northwest Area Contingency Plan (NWACP), typically starts oil spill responses with mechanical response methods, such as using booms and skimmers. In San Juan County there is about a 50% recovery of spilled oil. Dispersants are chemicals used to break up oil into tiny droplets

and adhere to oil to help dilute oil and biodegrade. Waters around islands in San Juan County are judged on a case by case basis for using dispersants. All types of oil move through San Juan County. Each type of oil may require a different type of dispersant. In the event of a spill, it is important for responders to determine what type of oil has been spilled before a type of dispersant to be used for cleanup can be decided on. The EPA allows 18 types of dispersants to be used. Will showed dispersants on a graph that compared dispersants by LC₅₀ (Lethal Concentration 50.) This is the level of toxicity it takes to kill 50% of test organisms. The only type of dispersant that is stocked in Washington State is Coexit EC9500A. This is also the type of dispersant British Columbia has stocked as well. Before dispersants can be used for a spill the oil type, oil state (how weathered the oil is,) and ocean mixing energy have to be determined. The more weathered spilled oil is, the less effective dispersants are on the spill. There needs to be a certain amount of wind speed, wave height, water temperature, salinity, and sediments for dispersants to be effective. Will also looked at the overall environmental and biological impacts of using dispersants. Studies suggest organisms in early life phases are more prone to the effects of dispersants, though it is not known if these effects are more or less problematic than exposure to spilled oil. Discussion on policy followed: Dispersant is stored in Edmonds. There are about 12,000 gallons in totes ready for distribution. Dispersants are distributed from the air as well as from vessels on the water. Local government does not have the power to determine which chemical dispersants are used in the event of an oil spill. The EPA decides on and produces dispersants. Dispersants don't all get applied the same way. Of all the dispersants, Coexit has been tested and used the most. There is more known about it than any other dispersant. It is typically applied as one part Coexit to twenty parts oil for spills. Using dispersants is always a political decision. There is usually a trustee discussion, and then it gets put into policy. The recommendation documents are tools for local responders. Federal waters (waters three miles offshore) are preapproved for dispersant use. Inland waters are approved on a case by case basis. Discussion about dispersant use in San Juan County is good information for the SJ MRC to bring to the NWACP for consideration. It was advised that everyone should be open minded to dispersants, as dispersants are another tool in the oil spill response tool box. When there is a spill, there is a bench test done on the oil. Then a tiered recommendation will be given and SMART protocols from the area plan will be activated. NOAA has the ability to set up micro-stations to monitor oil spill areas, and they will use all their assets to monitor what is going on in San Juan County. It was noted that dispersants probably won't work with diluted bitumen oil, although there haven't been many studies about effects of dispersants on diluted bitumen. There may be new studies coming out of Canada soon. Mechanical response is how diluted bitumen is currently dealt with. Will needs a policy recommendation from the SJ MRC to fulfil the grant he is working under. The county should also be included in this discussion. Will will send a white paper to the MRC about this issue. He suggested having the MRC form a task force to help suggest changes to the area plan. The annual update to the area plan with proposed changes will be posted for thirty days, and the comment period for the area plan is open till October 2017. SJ MRC comments will be valuable. Also, command units for oil spill response represent all interests, so comments help

decision makers do the job. The NWACP website has a list serve to join that will email updates as they become available.

*Ken, Megan, Craig, and Laura Jo volunteered to form a subcommittee on this.

Northwest Straits Commission (NWSC) Representative Acknowledgement and Selection – Ken was nominated as the new NWSC representative by Phil. The motion was seconded by Laura Jo. Motion was approved unanimously.

Northwest Straits Commission Grant Funding Update: Rich gave an update. The NWSC receives the bulk of its funding from the NEP. It has been getting \$800K/ year from the NEP/EPA, and Senator Patty Murray has assured the NWSC that she will continue to fund it at that level. Senator Kevin Ranker is also giving \$228K in state funds. The NWSC is moving forward now, and the MRCs will each receive \$74K. The NWSC has been approved by congress, but not by any one agency. It is looking for a better fitting agency to be part of. Rich let MRC members know he is the advocate for the MRCs.

Subcommittee and Staff Reports:

SRKW: No new updates.

Orcas Landing Exhibit Design: Kendra reported that she is working with public works on the ramp and dock for the project. The MRC has enough funding for three interpretive signs.

Membership: Laura Jo gave an update on membership recruitment. Ken will write a guest column for the newspaper for new member needs of the MRC. It will be important to cross check needs with requirements for positions.

Budgeting: Arnie reported that he is currently working on putting budgets together.

Letter Requesting Continued County Support for MRC Coordinator Position: Terry reported that the MRC will support this letter.

Citizen Input: N/A

MRC Meeting Adjourned at 10:29am

**Salmon Citizen's Advisory Group,
Watershed Regional Inventory Area (WRIA) #2 Meeting
Wednesday August 2, 2017**

CAG Meeting called to order at 10:29am by Terry Turner

Citizen Input: N/A

*Motion to approve meeting minutes from the July 5, 2017 meeting was made by Kendra, seconded by Megan. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Citizen Input: N/A

Meeting adjourned at 10:30am.