



## San Juan County Marine Resources Committee



### Agenda

## Southern Resident Killer Whale (SRKW) Community Workshop 2.0

Thursday, December 6, 2018  
10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Brickworks, Friday Harbor

#### Workshop Purpose:

Update and engage community members in meaningful dialogue about state and local, including *individual*, efforts underway to support SRKW recovery.

#### Workshop Objectives:

1. Build momentum from ideas generated and priority actions agreed to at 11/17 SJ Co SRKW Community Workshop\*
2. Participants learn about the status of:
  - Priority local actions identified in October 2017 SRKW Community Workshop
  - Local SRKW recovery projects, including San Juan MRC, San Juan County, and other local projects
  - State SRKW recovery initiatives, including SRKW Task Force recommendations, and their relationship to local efforts
  - Relevant research results for SRKW recovery and what it means going forward
3. Participants will engage in facilitated dialogue aimed at:
  - Advancing understanding of authorities for SRKW recovery, including what SJ County's authorities are (and are not)
  - Highlighting and identifying individual commitments to act
  - Gleaning input on local efforts and role/opportunities for San Juan community

**10:00**      **Opening – Tribal Welcoming** Patti Gobin, MRC and Tulalip Tribe

#### **10:20**      **Welcome / Introductions**

- Welcome/introductions - Kendra Smith, Environmental Resources Manager, San Juan County
- Review workshop purpose/context
- Agenda review
- Icebreaker

**10:40**      **Report on Progress of Local Actions\* to Recover SRKW** - Karin Roemers-Kleven (MRC Chair) and Christina Koons (MRC Vice-Chair)

- Role of MRC
- Report card on progress of priority local actions identified at 11/17 Workshop
- Relationship between priority local actions and SRKW Task Force recommendations / next steps
- Q/A; Facilitated discussion

*\*The 2017 workshop identified and prioritized individual and local actions to help protect SRKW from three known threats: pollution; boating/vessels; and limited food resources.*

**11:00 SRKW State Task Force Update** Lovel Pratt, MRC and Friends of the San Juans

- Review SRKW Task Force Recommendations pertinent to San Juan County
- Facilitated Discussion (10-15 min.)

**11:30 Ignite-style Presentations\* on Current San Juan MRC Projects that Support SRKW Recovery**

- Whale Warning Flag Project – Frances Robertson, San Juan County
- BWW Awareness Blitz – Seattle Boat Show Jan 25-Feb 2 - Taylor Shedd, Soundwatch
- Requesting allocation of Fish for SRKW at North of Falcon – Jeff Friedman, MRC & PWWA
- Facilitated Discussion (10-15 min.)

**12:00 Lunch / Networking**

**1:00 Ignite-style Presentations cont'd.**

- Forage fish recovery efforts – Tina Whitman, Friends of the San Juans
- Plastic Free Salish Sea Bag, straws, and other Trash – Karin Roemers-Kleven, MRC
- Keeping our waters clean – runoff control and derelict vessels – Kendra Smith, MRC
- Facilitated Discussion (10-15 min.)

**1:30 What Does the Latest Research Say About the SRKW?**

- Presence and use of foraging hot spots – Erin Ashe, Oceans Initiative
- Acoustic budget patterns – Jason Wood and Jesse Turner, SMRU Consulting
- Economic valuation of SRKW / oil spill risk consequences – Marta Green, San Juan County
- Facilitated discussion (10 min)

**2:15 Break**

**2:30 Looking Ahead: Facilitated Breakout Sessions**

- What else would participants like to see happening on this topic at a local level
- Revisit: Individual commitments to act
- What else should we be focusing on?

**3:45 Large Group Discussion/Report Out**

**5:00 Adjourn**



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## Workshop Speakers

### **Erin Ashe, Phd.** *Oceans Initiative*

Erin is the Executive Director and co-founder of Oceans Initiative, a marine research and conservation non-profit based in the Pacific Northwest. Her research is motivated by a desire to use science to make tangible conservation impacts. Erin's research interests include mark-recapture, ecology, conservation biology, demography, acoustics, population viability analysis, and marine protected areas. She studies the ecology of Pacific white-sided dolphins in the Pacific Northwest using photo-identification and acoustics to learn more about the conservation status of these fascinating dolphins. Erin received her PhD and MRes from St. Andrews University in the Sea Mammal Research Unit, and her B.Sc from Western Washington University. Erin also participates in the Governor's SRKW State Task Force Vessels Working Group

### **Jeff Friedman,** *MRC and Pacific Whale Watch Association*

Jeff joined the MRC in 2018. He is a whale watch captain and co-owner of Maya's Legacy Whale Watching in Friday Harbor. He is a keen naturalist and whale advocate. Jeff is currently the US President of the Pacific Whale Watch Association and a member of the Governor's SRKW State Task Force. Jeff is also a current member of the County's Salmon Recovery Citizens Advisory Group.

### **Marta Green,** *San Juan County Environmental Resources Division*

As our San Juan local integrating organization's Puget Sound Recovery Coordinator, Marta works with numerous local entities and tribal partners to collaboratively develop and implement local ecosystem protection and recovery strategies. The local strategy for protection from a large oil spill is the organization's highest priority. Before moving to San Juan Island in 2015, Marta spent 30 years with a large engineering and construction company serving as Chief Environmental Scientist and Project Director. She has managed environmental remediation projects for the oil industry, within EPA's Superfund and Army Chemical Weapons Threat Reduction programs, and at domestic and international nuclear sites.

### **Christina Koons,** *MRC*

Christina joined the MRC in 2018 and now serves as the committee's Vice Chair. Christina is a former developer of the historic commercial and residential properties in Olympia and Tacoma, and the environmentally forward residential community Eagle Lake on Orcas Island. She is currently active in noise pollution advocacy and serves as a member of the NW Regional Council for the National Park Conservation Association. Christina is also a current member of the County's Salmon Recovery Citizens Advisory Group.

### **Lovel Pratt,** *MRC and Friends of the San Juans*

Lovel Pratt joined the San Juan MRC in 2018. She is currently the Marine Protection Program Director at Friends of the San Juans where she advocates for safe shipping and oil spill prevention in the transboundary Salish Sea. Lovel is a member of the Governor's Southern Resident Killer Whale Recovery and Task Force's Vessels Working Group and the environmental representative on the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee. Lovel served on the VTRA (Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment) 2010, and the VTRA 2015 Working Groups. Lovel is also a current member of the County's Salmon Recovery Citizens Advisory Group.

### **Frances Robertson, PhD.** *MRC staff and San Juan County Environmental Resources Division*

Frances is the San Juan County Marine Program Coordinator and administers the San Juan County MRC. has over 15-years' experience in marine mammal science where her research has focused on the impacts of human activities on cetacean populations, including the effects of vessels on Northern and Southern Resident killer whales. She is a long-time collaborator on the NE Pacific Minke whale project, and has also served as an expert witness for tribal entities in Washington State. Frances is part of the Governor's SRKW State Task Force Vessels Working Group.

**Karin Roemers-Kleven, MRC**

Karin joined the MRC in 2018 and now also serves as the MRC Chair. Karin and her husband moved to Friday Harbor in 2015 and since then she has devoted over 200 hours in training to better understand the environment that the SRKWs depend on. She seeks avenues to educate other people and inspire them through storytelling to change their impact on the ecosystem. She regularly volunteers for FOLKS, the Stranding Network, Soundwatch and the Center for Whale Research. Karin is an RN and wound care specialist who consults with hospitals nationwide. Karin is also a current member of the County's Salmon Recovery Citizens Advisory Group.

**Taylor Shedd, Soundwatch and the Whale Museum**

Taylor is the coordinator of the Soundwatch Boater Education Program. He recently joined Soundwatch and the Whale Museum from the Scripps Institute of Oceanography where he completed a Master's degree in Marine Biodiversity and Conservation with a focus on the foraging behavior and management of the Southern Resident Killer Whales. Taylor has also worked as a scientific diving instructor, sailing captain and hatchery technician at a local salmon hatchery. He enjoys his tiny house on San Juan with his fiancée Hillary and mini Australian shepherd Ruby.

**Kendra Smith, MRC and San Juan County Environmental Resources Division**

Kendra is the San Juan County Environmental Resources Manager and a member of San Juan County MRC. Kendra's expertise lies in restoration ecology and she holds an MS in Ecosystems Management. Over her career she has engaged local stakeholders, Federal, State, and regional regulators and politicians in the development and implementation of large scale policies, regulations, and plans (County-wide riparian buffer rules, floodplain management and storm water standards, the Healthy Streams Plan and Rogue Basin Restoration Action Plan). She has also implemented and monitored process-based watershed restoration with public and private landowners to help recover wild salmon and other native species in Oregon over the last 25 years. Kendra participates in the Governor's SRKW State Task Force Prey Working Group.

**Jesse Turner, SMRU Consulting North America**

Jesse is a field engineer for the Coastal Acoustic Buoy (CAB) project at SMRU Consulting. He received his BS from the University of Washington's School of Oceanography in 2016. His senior thesis used hydrophones on the Cabled Array and NEPTUNE Observatory in the northeast Pacific Ocean to quantify variations in fin whale vocalizations. Additional research includes biogeochemical cycling offshore industrial coastlines in Qatar as well as assisting on cruises deploying the University of Washington's Regional Scale Nodes Cabled Array on the Juan de Fuca plate in the Northeast Pacific. After spending a year studying methane emissions from Alaskan peatlands, he is happily circling back to cetacean science.

**Tina Whitman, Friends of the San Juans**

Tina is the science director at Friends of the San Juans. She has managed shoreline research, restoration, and protection program at Friends since 2002. Following her Masters of Science with a focus on the application of biological data to improve land management she spent 25 years in habitat conservation in the northeast and the northwest. Tina served 8 years on the San Juan County MRC and is a current member of the County's Salmon Recovery Technical Advisory Group.

**Jason Wood, PhD. SMRU Consulting North America**

Jason is the Operations Manager for SMRU Consulting North America. He is an acoustician with over 15-years' experience studying acoustic ecology and the potential impact of anthropogenic sound on marine mammals. In his work with SMRU Jason is responsible for the maintenance and data analysis of the Lime Kiln hydrophone, which supports the ECHO vessel slow down program funded by the Port of Vancouver in British Columbia, Canada. Jason is also leading research efforts to develop and deploy a real time passive acoustic monitoring buoy –the Coastal Acoustic Buoy (CAB), which this project plans to employ for the pilot effort.