



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

**Thursday, October 4, 2018  
8:30 AM-10:30 AM  
CAG Meeting 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM  
Call in number: to be sent.**

**Legislative Hearing Room**

**5 Second Street - Friday Harbor, WA**

### **Agenda**

8:30 AM	<b>Convene Meeting:</b> <i>Christina Koons, Co-Chair</i>
8:35 AM	<b>Approval of Minutes:</b> <i>All</i>
8:40 AM	<b>Sand lance and eelgrass project proposal:</b> <i>Tina Whitman, Friends of the San Juans</i>
9:00 AM	<b>MRC grant obligations:</b> <i>Kendra Smith</i>
9:15 AM	<b>Seattle Boat Show and Whale Wise education:</b> <i>Kendra Smith</i>
9:25 AM	<b>MRC Community Meeting and the Ad Hoc Sub Committee:</b> <i>Kendra Smith</i>
9:35 AM	<b>Westside Management and NFWF grant:</b> <i>Kendra Smith</i>
9:45 AM	<b>Alignment with Chambers of Commerce:</b> <i>Christina Koons</i>
10:05 AM	<b>Membership recruitment and attendance policy:</b> <i>Christina Koons</i>
10:25 AM	<b>Citizen input</b>
10:30 AM	<b>Adjourn meeting</b>
10:35 AM	<b>Convene CAG meeting:</b> <i>Christina Koons, Co-Chair</i>
	<b>SJC Salmon Recovery Chapter and the MRC:</b> <i>Byron Rot</i>
	<b>Update on the salmon recovery grant:</b> <i>Byron Rot</i>
11:00 AM	<b>Adjourn CAG meeting</b>

**Committee Members in Attendance** – Kendra Smith, Megan Dethier, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Ivan Reiff, Terry Turner. Committee Members called in: Jeff Friedman

**Non-Committee in Attendance:** Byron Rot, Tina Whitman

**Committee members not in attendance** – Patti Gobin, Laura Jo Severson, Jamie Stephens, Jeff Dyer, Karen Roemers-Kleven, Lovel Pratt, Carl Davis,

**Non-Committee not present:** Frances Robertson

8:35 **Convene Meeting:** *Christina Koons, Vice-Chair*

8:36 **Sand lance and eelgrass project proposal:** *Tina Whitman (Friends of the SJ's)*  
Salmon recovery projects update/overview,

- **First project:** Herring Spawning Habitat.
  - **Goal:**To mitigate stressors on eelgrass in herring spawning areas (Eastsound-Orcas, Mud and Hunter Bays-Lopez, Blind Bay-Shaw).
  - Scope of project:
    1. Work with buoy owners/installers to upgrade designs in priority areas.
    2. Work toward voluntary eelgrass protection zones and provide mooring buoys outside eelgrass zone. This already exists with one sign on the dock at Eastsound but needs more outreach about anchoring. This is a top priority for the Eastsound planning review committee. Jefferson County is doing this successfully in Port Townsend. FSJ has secured SRFB funds for boater outreach and to implement a no anchor zone at one site - moving forward at Eastsound.
    3. Seeking to protect tidelands that include herring spawning grounds (through donation or purchase) for potential restoration, in partnership with the preservation trust. Tina shows maps where herring spawning areas are identified. Seeking MRC as a partner for this project.
  
- **Second project:** Pacific sand lance spawning habitat protection project through exploratory surveys and mapping.
  - Planned spawning surveys for the next three winters, Nov-Jan 2018/9 – 2020/21, targeting beaches along San Juan Channel on both Lopez and San Juan Island, but will also include beaches around the San Juan Islands.
  - Focus on beaches adjacent to known spawn sites and places where adult sand lance have been recorded from beach seining.
  - This year using volunteers already trained in forage fish surveys, next year outreach to get more people engaged.

- Friends interested in engaging shoreline landowners next year to monitor their beaches. We need large community engagement because low tide windows in day in winter are limited. WDFW trains and certifies. Friends of the San Juans will host a local training fall 2019. There will be a map/timeline of where people are needed when, looking at documented spawning sites to maximize sampling times. Seeking MRC to help publicize call for volunteers for this project, next year.

9:10 **Approval of Sept. Minutes:** *Megan moves to approve, Phil seconds. All in favor.*

9:11 **MRC grant obligations:** *Kendra Smith*

Kendra shares grant agreement started on Oct. 1 with NW Straits commission

- **Task 1.** Daily operations
- **Task 2.** SRKW outreach and education around boater awareness, flags, public forums, etc. Includes second community workshop planned for Dec. 6. This task includes monitoring the effectiveness of the flags and documenting effects of outreach.
- **Task 3.** Plastic-free-Salish-sea, Karin is taking the lead. Should involve some media campaign, Carl will help, working with the SWAC.
- **Task 4.** Revise area plan, hasn't been updated for over a decade. Ecosystem Recovery document integrating planning processes. Need plan to be map-based with GIS data.

We have \$75K applied – covers Frankie on 50%FTE but requesting to make her full-time. Also, looking at strategies for steady stable funding for Marine Resources.

We'll be talking with the Council on Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> regarding continuous support for the MRC.

ACTION ITEM: Terry agrees to be on sub-group for spearheading letter request for funding to council to support full-time coordinator position to support MRC activities.

9:21 **Seattle Boat Show and Whale Wise education:** *Kendra Smith*

January 25<sup>th</sup> -Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, an opportunity for boater outreach. The boat show has offered a free booth for SRKW education, to promote "BE WHALE WISE" and the flags. Kendra is seeking volunteers to spend time in Seattle. Free admission for volunteers.

We still have approx. 250 flags. Also looking at the effectiveness of the size of flags. We plan to distribute more flags on the docks here on San Juan Island.

9:31 **MRC Community Meeting and the Ad Hoc Sub Committee, Westside**

**Management and NFWF grant:** *Kendra Smith*

This is pushed out to December 6, we'll need a subcommittee meeting.

Updates: we've spoken with NFWF about the Westside management contract. Kendra points out adjustments in date and timing that are included in the pdf she sent out.

Now (October) we need to connect with stakeholders before they leave post-season.

Two-day stakeholder workshop will happen in January with target of communicating to State & feds about the needs of community and stakeholders. Dates will be determined soon. Also working with key scientists to pull together acoustic and physical data.

**9:41 SRKW Task Force Report**

This is the info that Byron, Frankie, and Kendra pulled together for Jamie. Kendra passes around a document with recommendations for how to answer questions.

Suggestions need to be submitted to the Task Force via the County Council. They're due on Oct. 7. All MRC members are encouraged to respond individually.

**9:50 Alignment with Chambers of Commerce: *Christina Koons***

This letter was sent to the MRC and staff, states that the Chamber of Commerce votes not in favor of a West-side no-go zone, saying this will adversely affect Anacortes tourism. It refers to Ken Balcomb's research that this no-go zone won't affect SRKW. We should engage with our local business community about the County's work.

**10:02 Membership recruitment and attendance policy: *Christina Koons***

- We have two vacant positions we need to fill.
- We need some shape on that process.
- Regarding attendance: in the past there have been some gaps in participation. Karin wants to develop a participation policy. People can call in, emails have been responsive.

**10:25 Citizen input**

Friends of the San Juans is hiring a marine program assistant 50% FTE, open until filled.

**10:15 Adjourn meeting.** Kendra moves to adjourn, Phil seconds, all in favor.

**10:15 Convene CAG meeting: *Christina Koons, Co-Chair***

- Document passed around, confirms that SRKW are feeding primarily on Fraser River Chinook. Shows updated list of projects and numbers pulled from RCO database.
- RCO letter of support: it's about supporting funding for these programs. For this letter, we can remove "MRC" and have it come from the CAG.
- The MRC is an advisory board to the Council, but the CAG is its own independent group. This is in response to the Salmon Recovery Council Meeting last Thursday in which it was stated that the Governor's office isn't hearing enough about Salmon Recovery from Washingtonians. This letter is about informing the Governor this is a priority to the CAG, it speaks specifically to fully funding the RCO budget request for salmon recovery (not to the Task Force).

VOTE: Megan moves that we approve Byron's letter to the Governor with the MRC logo removed, Terry seconds. *All approve* (seven in support), Karin, Carl, Lovell, and Laura Jo already supported. \*can go back through emails to confirm proxy votes

**Update on the salmon recovery grant:** Byron Rot

- Regarding salmon recovery there are two grants the CAG is facilitating. One is SRFB and the other is PSAR. The first \$30 million of PSAR is small projects like what we approved in July.
- The remainder of the \$79.6 million ask to the Governor is 11 PSAR Large Cap projects proposed (over \$1million) for funding across Puget Sound.
- The vast majority benefit Chinook.
- In the Task Force there's a big focus on Chinook, which is about 80% of SRKW diet. But seasonally they feed on Coho and Chum, so we can't forget these other species.

#### 10:30 **Salmon Recovery Plan CHAPTER update**

Karin/Terry/Phil/Carl/Christina volunteered previously for a salmon subcommittee on MRC.

- For the recovery plan update, we will need to start with visions/goals/objectives – updating the 2005 report. The 2005 report focused on studies. Since we've completed many studies including PIAT and PIAT II, we are now focused on 1) Protection, 2) Restoration, 3) Studies. Next step is coming up with measureable outcomes and goals.
- The Marine Stewardship (MSA) plan update, Ecosystem Recovery and Protection Plan and other existing plans should align and reinforce each other.
- The Partnership's goal in terms of shoreline armoring is to restore more than we're building. That means we need to know what's out there, Friends of the San Juans has a proposal to the LIO to locate and map shoreline armor in San Juan County.

**10:38 – freshwater planning effort**

We have 9 watersheds, looking at 8 (Hummel Creek on Lopez is the 9<sup>th</sup> – suggestion that Davis Bay would be a better representative). On SJI: Garrison, False Bay. On Orcas Is.: West Beach creek, Crow valley, fish trap, Bay head, Cascade, and Doe Bay Creek. Identify limiting factors and then ask residents for help. Most impacts come from in-channel ponds (passively filled). Creek doesn't flow until all ponds are filled, that can mean a delay of 1-2 months before there's enough flow for salmon to spawn (not until November). All these systems have had at least cutthroat and some salmon as well. There are anecdotes of salmon fishing in the San Juans as recently as 1970's.

ACTION ITEM: Byron to send out a doodle poll to set up a meeting of the chapter update

**10:47 Adjourn CAG meeting.** Kendra moves to adjourn, Megan seconds, all in favor.

Next meeting, first Thursday November 1<sup>st</sup> at the Grange