

Committee Members in Attendance: Cathleen Burns, Carl Davis, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genther, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Lovel Pratt, Ivan Reiff, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Laura Jo Severson, Kendra Smith, **Ex-officio, County support staff:** Marta Green, Frances Robertson, Jamie Stephens, Sam Whitridge
Members of the Public: Dana Oster, Tony Parkin, Laura Rivas

8:35 AM **Convene Meeting** *Christina Koons, Chair*

Begin with Coast Salish Acknowledgement: *Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people who have called this place home since time immemorial and let us honor inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights that has been passed down from generation to generation.*

8:36 AM **Citizen input** *none*

Brief introduction from Tony Parkin, here from IOSA

8:38 AM **Acceptance of January meeting minutes**

Lovel’s changes were incorporated. Lovel moves to approve, Megan seconds. Minutes approved.

8:39 AM **NW Straits Commission update** *Christina Koons*

Informational session was offered for MRC heads in January. Met new gubernatorial appointee, Julia Parrish, founder of COAST (citizen science program). NW Straits 101 for new members. Frances sent brief synopsis of meeting. Opportunity to network with other MRC’s at the symposium

8:43 AM **MRC housekeeping & project updates**

• PFSS: Adopt a beach update *Frances Robertson*

This feature on website will be live by end of month. Thanks to MRC members who contributed. Adopt a road is taking longer, Great Island Clean up teams preparing for April. More short videos being prepared, Frankie owes Carl a call. Community workshops planned with Solid Waste for spring
ACTION ITEM: anyone can join SWAC meetings first Tuesday of March, contact Frankie if interested

• SRKW: Bringing Killer Whale Tales to grade 5 students *Frances Robertson & Kailey Genther*

Kailey is organizing this, it’s still being planned virtually over a series of sessions for the 5th grade.

• MSA Update: Next Steps *Frances Robertson*

Frankie still writing biodiversity updates
ACTION ITEM: subcommittee should meet in next month to get next steps together

8:47 AM **NWSF Crabber Outreach: The Catch More Crab program** *Jason Morgan*

Jason provides a summary of derelict crab pots numbers in Puget Sound. Most common reason for loss is user error, therefore focused on education, outreach, and prevention. Review common user errors. Review of solutions: removals, research, potential gear modifications or regulations
NW Straits foundation pamphlets, “catch more crab” campaign. Various ways to reach crabbers.
In 2020 a virtual workshop was available region wide, focused on Jefferson/Clallam, plan to do again. We have 4 videos, approx. 1 minute long each, nwstraitfoundation.org

DISCUSSION:

Q: What about restricting crabbing in high-traffic areas?

Jason: Difficult due to issues of co-management in this region. 14 treaty tribes in the area

Q: will lightweight pots be banned?

Jason: Need research to determine real proper weight, looking for funding for that now.

Q: need to put name and address on the buoy, but what about ID on the pot?

Jason: DFW sweeps gear on days recreational crabbing is closed, has an online form to report loss.

Q: is there any limitation to number of pots that can be dropped in one area?

Jason: no, and don't know how they would decide for a given area or enforce

Q: how's crab population doing?

A: crabbing shut down in South Puget Sound, not doing well, but up here it's good. Sustaining itself

Dana: Snohomish MRC promotes the catch more crab program on their website, shows map of high traffic areas to avoid: <https://www.snocomrc.org/projects/recreational-crabber-education/>

Christina: could MRC do that for SJ County?

Jason: if you're interested, we could help with design/printing/distribution, other support

Karin: could we have volunteers here to ensure crab pots are being sold with proper information?

Frances: I've been doing that at Kings and Ace, they only let you put cards in their card rack

- Karin volunteers for SJI, Christina for Orcas, Jeff for Lopez. Carl is willing to help out at his marina

Jason: April/May we will reach out to all MRC's to see who wants brochures and posters

Frances: online seminars with boat show, Waggoners, Coast Guard Auxiliary - they'd be interested.

Jason: also ferry terminals, many have posters or rack cards. morgan@nwstraitsfoundation.org

ACTION ITEM: Frankie to facilitate getting materials to MRC, contact Frankie if you want rack cards

9:48 AM **More MRC housekeeping & project updates**

Karin: minor update, I was invited by NW Straits to participate in collaboration for YES magazine

ACTION ITEM: Karin will send Frankie the draft to distribute if people are interested

Note: Jeff Friedman resigned from MRC, we have an open space, think about recruitment. And a number of member seats are up in June, hope you choose to continue, but more seats up then

- Remaining discussion on projects for 2021-2023 grant round

Eelgrass monitoring, derelict vessel, potential for coast Salish film fest, False Bay monitoring

ACTION ITEM: Other feedback, comment, additional ideas? If so please email Frankie

Christina: I'm interested in permanent funding for the marine utility, lets meet as a subcommittee.

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will send out a doodle poll, those who are interested can sign up

Level: charter review commission has just been initiated, is anyone attending those meetings?

SJ county is a charter county. The charter provides framework for county to establish its own priorities and address issues. The charter review commissioners were elected and just began meeting. If decide on charter changes, they will put forward ballot measures this November

Jamie: the charter is a governance document, not an issue document. Lays out the structure and duties of how county is governed. The charter doesn't deal with the comprehensive plan, that's

under review and parts have been decided. We do land use planning through the growth management act. It's underway, we're currently working on the land use chapter.

Question: is there any chance of procuring marine funding through the comprehensive plan?

Jamie: I doubt it but we could check into that. It doesn't define funding mechanisms. Funding is a budget issue; if we want permanent funding, need to figure out where it's coming from or pass a tax

- Navy Jet Noise symposium planning

L. Pratt and Christina Koons

We had the idea of a symposium, scientists have agreed to discuss their findings. Title is Jet Noise Science symposium. Salish Sea institute will co-host. 4 dates selected in March. Navy has been invited. Lovel looking at how we can record the proceedings for use and ability to share afterwards. ACTION ITEM: help in putting together an invitation list, if interested Lovel has google doc can share
Laura Jo: what about Barbara Bentely?

Jamie: Christine Kerlin keeps data on complaints, <ckerlin2000@yahoo.com>

10:13 AM Megan moves to adjourn MRC meeting, Lovel seconds. **Convene CAG meeting**

- 2021 SRFB Grant Round Planning

SRFB grant round process is underway. This is a smaller allocation than last year. One application so far from Preservation Trust (Lopez shoreline protection project). Next year will be bigger, many are preparing for that. CAG and MRC will have lighter review process. Letters of interest due 2/12/21
Then TAG review, through spring full applications will be submitted, then CAG gets looped in

- Salmon Recovery Chapter Progress Update

Updating 2005 Salmon Recovery Strategy Chapter. Facilitator Susan O'Neill worked with us last year to get organized. We've finalized draft of freshwater targets, meet this month for nearshore goals
Once we have a draft finalized for nearshore and freshwater of goals and targets, plan to meet with CAG to update with a short presentation at April meeting

- State of Salmon in Watersheds Report

Sam sent out materials. This report every two years by RCO and governor's salmon office. Main takeaway is that challenges are outpacing the progress we've made with restoration efforts.
ACTION ITEM: please share with your contact lists, forward along report that Sam sent last week

Laura: several recent complementary reports, like NW treaty tribes State of our Watershed report. Salmon Recovery (virtual) conference scheduled for April, just \$20. Stormwater Strategic Initiative is hosting workshops, one on Feb. 26 science, address contaminants.

Legislative session is happening. Weekly calls Fridays for Jeff Parsons' updates, please contact Laura if you want to be on that email list, or Don Gourlie at don.gourlie@psp.wa.gov

Annual report on marine waters conditions, looking to host a nearshore workgroup summit in march
Send Laura an email if you're interested in any of that.

Laura Jo: can teachers get clock hours (needed to maintain teaching credential) from attending the salmon recovery conference? contact the office of Superintendent of public instruction (OSPI)

10:36 AM **Adjourn MRC and CAG Meeting**