



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

Thursday, February 3, 2022  
8:30 AM-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
Meeting ID: 820 9312 7615 / Passcode: 135032  
Call in number: +1 253 215 8782 US

## Agenda

<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Convene MRC Meeting – Christina Koons</b> <b>Coast Salish Acknowledgement</b> <i>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 have been passed down from generation to generation.</i>
<b>8:40 AM</b>	<b>Public Comment</b> <b>Approve MRC Retreat minutes – Christina Koons</b>
<b>8:55 AM</b>	<b>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Christina Koons</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>New committee member welcome and introductions</b>
<b>9:15 AM</b>	<b>MSA Plan update: Recap of threats and stressors associated with Climate Change</b>
<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Discussion of actions to address impacts of Climate Change</b>
<b>10:15 AM</b>	<b>MRC project updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plastic Free Salish Sea</li><li>• Outreach and Education</li><li>• Eelgrass protection</li><li>• False Bay monitoring</li></ul>
<b>10:20 AM</b>	<b>Member news and any other business</b>
<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting – Christina Koons</b>
<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>CAG updates/business – Sam Whitridge</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Final reviews of Salmon Recovery Chapter</li><li>• 2022 SRFB Grant Round Next Steps</li><li>• Scheduling Salmon Recovery Protection Projects Discussion with TAG</li></ul>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Adjourn CAG meeting</b>

Attached: MRC January minutes  
Notes from discussions at Retreat on threats to the MSA and Actions.  
Google link to MSA Documents provided in meeting announcement email.

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Matt Arata, Carl Davis, Jeff Dyer, Phil Green, Christina Koons, Adam Parrott, Laura Jo Severson, Beth Tate, Kendra Smith, Ivan Reiff

**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Jenny Atkinson, Angela Broderick, Ray Glaze, , Frances Robertson, Alyssa Scott, , Sam Whitridge, Jeff Whitty

8:34 AM **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement** *Christina Koons*

*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 have been passed down from generation to generation.*

8:35 AM **Public Comment** *none*

8:35 AM **Approve January meeting minutes** *Christina Koons*

MOTION: Kendra moves to approve January meeting minutes, Phil seconds. All in favor, minutes are approved.

8:36 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC** *Phil Green*

Retreat in-person will be postponed until space can be found. Patti Gobin working with Army Corps on permitting process to consider long-term effects, Tribes working with WDFW and DNR on recreational impacts to treaty rights. Updated PSP action agenda out for external review. Save the date for NWS conference November 18-19 in LaConner.

Phil noticed Clallam County has 'critter cards', coasters distributed to restaurants (with QR code going to MRC site). Christina: I attended legislative committee, NWSC working with Patty Murray's office to ensure additional funding

8:42 AM **New committee member welcome and introductions**

Christina: welcome to Matt Arata and Adam Parrott!

Adam: I'm assistant harbormaster at Port of FH. Excited to be here

Matt: I live on SJI, involved in shipyard cove, marine construction/dock repair/boat salvage work.

MRC members each introduce themselves, describe backgrounds & welcome new members

8:50 AM **MSA Plan update: Recap of threats and stressors associated with Climate Change**

ACTION ITEM: if you're interested in MSA updates, please let Frankie know – she'll put you on the email list Frankie recommends the Salish Sea Report. Climate Change chapter includes list of (interacting) physical impacts e.g., less snowfall, warmer air temperatures, higher freshwater temperatures, lower dissolved oxygen in streams, etc.

The list from retreat discussion includes impacts on marine vegetation, wasting diseases, and uninformed public sector

Strategies from the retreat: research, monitoring, restoration, etc. Specific action must address core threat themes and threats for biodiversity targets, must be actionable/tangible within next 5-15 years. Measurable with benchmarks.

9:11 AM **Discussion of actions to address impacts of Climate Change**

Kendra: with the Shoreline Master Plan and Program there are rules around development activity that could be looked at/adjusted if necessary. With the MSA plan, we can guide the work of the County. Angela is tasked with writing the County's Climate Action plan. It's important these plans are mutually reinforcing in terms of focus/target efforts.

It's part of MSP to consider cumulative impacts. 80% of armoring sites impacting shorelines have no permits. We have stepped up enforcement with new environmental inspector, they'll catch 20% that go through permitting. The rest will be recognized by activity on shoreline. It would be great if the state fined contractors who violate state law.

Angela: we announced the opening of recruitment for new Climate committee. Structure will be citizens-based, also a subcommittee of all committee/commissions in county where overlap was important. Integrate different efforts/plans

Kendra: we need this team's list of what will help the marine environment, this committee will be the technical group providing ideas. The core committee will be gathering ideas from the experts. Are we looking for specific actions?

Frankie: e.g., if increased storm intensity/stormwater run-off, should we focus on raingardens and incorporating into public places but also encouraging landowners. Or consider sensitive habitats like eelgrass with declining health, so should there be protection from stressors like boats? E.g., already moving toward anchor-out zones  
Beth has discussed with nearshore property owners, encourage to keep soft shore instead of bulkheads, incentives around docks... trying to address some of these impacts with sedimentation, increases in run-off from the land  
Beth: it's about increasing resilience to climate change impacts that can't change like big storms, increased sea level. Property owners have no incentive for restoration like shoreline revegetation. maybe not enough information available.

Frankie: incentives/mitigation will be big, also outreach/education, and then long-term monitoring/protection. Focus on socioeconomic angle while building shoreline resilience. Are there monitoring projects? E.g., mussels; Long term databases to help look at trends across Salish sea. Incentives could have small components, smaller-scale partnerships

Kendra: we've been sampling water quality. biggest pollutant-loading areas around ferry landings, opportunities for improvement especially at FH and Orcas. With more high-intensity storm events in shorter time periods, water retention will need larger storage and capture. We are talking to property owners about need to manage water. The state owns ferry landings. We sweep area and scoop grit. But there's no pre-treatment facility at either location. Opportunities to educate, particularly large trucks/contracting vehicles. And don't dump coffee in the storm drain!

Frankie: one monitoring action that could be considered, use MyCoast app, document king tides changing over time.

Kendra: also with eelgrass, defining zones where protection is needed. Some education around eelgrass buoys

Frankie: that's two good examples of monitoring – one protection, one example of policy actions that can be taken

Phil: Jefferson County at the NW straits meeting, they also have a storm surge project, we could get more information

Frankie: anyone willing to connect with Snohomish on MyCoast and/or Jefferson on storm surge project and report?

**ACTION ITEM:** Jeff agrees to take that on – find out protocols from other counties, how do they do it systematically.

Christina: could you do some mapping of each island and then a PR outreach from Angela with Jeff and Carl?

Kendra: NOAA predictive data aren't always as good in this area. We want to see the baseline of the tideline proximity to infrastructure. Highest astronomical tide is an Army corps' standard, anything above that requires a permit.

Phil: sometimes tide is 2' higher, because they can't predict the storm surge. Can't model those, except for short-term

Carl: according to Cliff Mass we had the highest tide ever recorded in WA in mid-January, Super King Tide on 1/7/22— <https://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2022/01/super-king-tide-water-levels-approach.html>

Kendra: We are underfunded for needs of managed retreat. Some roads will go away, others will need to be moved. On private side, unaware of programs for property owners with stormwater drainage. We offer technical assistance

ACTION ITEM: Frankie will take list of suggestions from this discussion and build it into our shared google doc

Jeff: Land Bank may be interested in partnering. I'm taking 12-week-course studying climate change, Terra.do

ACTION ITEM: Jeff is willing to be MRC liaison to the Climate Action Group

10:04AM **MRC project updates**

*Frankie*

- Plastic Free Salish Sea

Katie Fleming with Solid Waste is taking a lead on this together with Karin regarding beach cleanups/ island cleanup. Working to put in the Seabin at the port, will work with Adam

- Outreach and Education

Kailey and Jeff in contact with schools about Killer Whale Tales in grade 5 classrooms this spring, hopefully in person.

- Eelgrass protection

maintenance on buoys before kickoff of boat season, in spring reinstate boater monitoring effort with volunteers

- False Bay monitoring

Frankie to work on quality assurance protocol with class instructors. In May/June need volunteers for visitor surveys

10:07 AM **Member news and any other business**

Frankie received message from Rick Larsen's staff, he has framed the Be Whale Wise flag and displays in his office! Also, but the County sent off a joint letter with Islands Trust about positioning an ERTV in this region.

Phil: I thought they said county commissioners together with Islands Trust to recommission a tug to inland waters

Carl: Other Oil subcommittee news is that we're meeting next week with Tony Parkin from IOSA about ERTV details

Angela: <https://www.sanjuanco.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1148> (Marta wrote the press release)

Frankie: Two bills I'm following through Legislative session, request from DNR to boost derelict vessel program, and protection for eelgrass and kelp

ACTION ITEM: Frankie or Lovel can let MRC members know if there are hearings they can attend or support

Carl: article about the need for ERTV's: <https://salish-current.org/2022/01/28/anticipated-salish-sea-vessel-traffic-increases-spark-calls-for-more-environmental-protections/>

Jeff Whitty: Kelp Bill fact sheet: [https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/em leg\\_dnr\\_kelp\\_eelgrass\\_2022.pdf](https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/em leg_dnr_kelp_eelgrass_2022.pdf)

10:15 AM **Adjourn MRC meeting and Convene CAG meeting**

*Christina Koons*

10:15 AM **CAG updates/business**

*Sam Whitridge*

- Final reviews of Salmon Recovery Chapter

Since we met in January, a few more revisions. Everyone involved is ready to sign off and move on. Are we ready to adopt it as our lead entity strategy going into the grant round? Eventually we'll put it before the council

Jeff: Is there opportunity to keep reviewing this 1-2 years down the road?

Sam: yes, we left some data gaps understanding we would come back and revisit through adaptive management cycles

Jeff: any opportunity to extend it beyond 50 years? How do we want this place to look 200 years from now?

Sam: These goals align with what other watersheds have done. 10 years is the critical time and 50 years is long term

Kendra: We need to get this in front of Council because there are some clear targets in next 8 years in terms of how aggressive we need to be to turn the tide. This gives us the backup we need to push for a change in approach.

I support moving forward. Could we do it on February 15<sup>th</sup>? also need to present projects for salmon recovery grant applications

Sam: we discussed going at same time as MSA plan, but if it would help you now, we can do what you think is best

Kendra: If the MSA plan will be at least several months then it's worth going forward now with Salmon update

Frankie: yes, it'll be at least several months, refine strategies, put out for peer review - hoping to do that in June

ACTION ITEM: Kendra and Sam will discuss timing offline

MOTION: Jeff moves to approve revision to the Salmon recovery chapter and adopt it as our lead entity strategy,

Kendra: friendly amendment to put it before council ASAP. Christina seconds, all approve, motion passes.

10:24 AM

• 2022 SRFB Grant Round Next Steps

Letters due 2/18, we'll sit down with project sponsors who submit one-pagers, TAG gives feedback, green or red lights.

TAG processes applications then site visits in early May. We'll need to decide if we're doing them in person or virtually.

10:26 AM

• Scheduling Salmon Recovery Protection Projects Discussion with TAG

CAG expressed desire to meet with TAG, discussed making time at April meeting. All approve. Sam will send materials

10:27 AM

Sam sat in on first round of interviews to fill Laura's position. Laura sent a few quick partnership updates:

- In addition to filling Laura's newly vacant position just mentioned, also Salmon permitting projects coordinator
- Legislative session is underway, Partnership continues their weekly calls with updates. If interested can sign up,
- ESRP grant competition for small grants was open on Jan 13<sup>th</sup>
- Action agenda process continues, Partnership has concluded its review but continues to welcome feedback through Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>. Hope to approve by leadership council on March 3<sup>rd</sup>

QUESTIONS FOR SAM

Christina: what kind of projects are coming in?

Sam: at least one nearshore protection, freshwater on Garrison creek from CD, Friends and County each have a few

Phil: Any feel for how many projects can be covered?

Sam: we'll have about \$2million. We pre-allocated about \$100K to MacArdle Bay from last year so total is a little less.

ACTION ITEM: Letter of Interest process is usually just TAG, but MRC would also like to see the one-pagers.

Phil: Will the criteria that needs to be met along the way be tracked by the TAG so we can use to evaluate the process?

Sam: the salmon recovery portal database is statewide, RCO manages, good at tracking those criteria, input from lead entities. I update it for SJC as projects come in, it's easy to run reports for specific criteria out of that database

Kendra: if you know of anyone interested in a project let us know, especially if it has to do with sea level rise, can match

10:38 AM **Adjourn CAG meeting**