



San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery



SAN JUAN LOCAL INTEGRATING ORGANIZATION

Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG-LIO Meeting Agenda

Thursday, October 6, 2022
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Microsoft Teams meeting

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 255 759 546 331

Passcode: Hoivgx

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 360-726-3293](tel:+13607263293), [43622274#](tel:+143622274) United States, Seattle

Phone Conference ID: 436 222 74#

While this is a virtual meeting, a public meeting place is available at the County Legislative Building, Legislative Hearing Room, at 55 2nd St. in Friday Harbor for those without mobile phone or internet access.

9:00 AM	<p>Convene MRC Meeting – Karin Roemers-Kleven</p> <p>Coast Salish Acknowledgement</p> <p><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 has been passed down from generation to generation.</i></p>
9:05 AM	<p>Public Comment</p>
9:10 AM	<p>Approve meeting agenda – All</p> <p>Approve September MRC meeting minutes – MRC Members</p>
9:15 AM	<p>NWSC meeting report to the MRC – Karin Roemers-Kleven</p>
9:20 AM	<p>Intertidal Monitoring Project on Yellow Island– Chris Mantegna, UW</p>
9:45 AM	<p>MRC Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aleutian Isle next steps- <i>Sam Whitridge</i> • Debrief of NWSC Collaborative Conservation Workshop- <i>Tyler, Lovel and Phil</i> • Derelict Vessel List and proposed vessel turn-in event- <i>Sam Whitridge</i> • Creosote Assessment Grant- <i>Frances Robertson</i> • MSA Update Next Steps- <i>Frances Robertson</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final SRKW Westside Report- <i>Frances Robertson</i>• MRC Logo Update- <i>Tyler Davis</i>• Great Islands Cleanup Update- <i>Tyler Davis</i>• MRC Retreat Planning- <i>Sam Whitridge</i>• Pigeon Guillemot surveys- <i>Tyler Davis</i>• Follow-up on LIO Rep-<i>Sam Whitridge</i>
10:45 AM	Committee member updates and any other business
10:50 AM	Adjourn MRC Meeting Convene CAG Meeting
10:50 AM	CAG Updates- <i>Sam Whitridge</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SRFB Funding Meeting Update• MacKaye Harbor Project Completion• Upcoming WSC Meeting
11:15 AM	Adjourn CAG Meeting Convene LIO Meeting
11:15 AM	Approve LIO September Meeting Summary
11:20 AM	LIO Updates- <i>Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BIL Funding• Update on new LIO grant• LIO Collective Project• NTA Reporting• Revisit LIO Strategic Plan• Fish Tales- <i>Frances Robertson</i>
12:00 PM	Adjourn LIO Meeting



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Marine Advisory Committees MRC-CAG Meeting Minutes October 6, 2022

MRC, CAG and LIO Committee Members in Attendance: Paul Andersson, Megan Dethier, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genter, Adam Parrott, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Beth Tate

Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public: Matthew Colston, Tyler Davis, Marta Green, Erin Licata, Chris Mantegna, Frances Robertson, Kendra Smith, Kim Sundberg, Sam Whitridge

9:03 AM **Convene Meeting, Coast Salish Acknowledgement**

Sam Whitridge

Welcome to the MRC/CAG/LIO meeting. No quorum so we'll hold off on action items: *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.*

9:04 AM **Public Comment**

none

9:05 AM **Approve Meeting Agenda, Approve September MRC meeting minutes**

MRC members

No quorum so we'll skip this for the time being, save until next meeting

9:06 AM **NWSC meeting report to the MRC**

Karin Roemers-Kleven

Good meeting last Friday. Cancelling March 31st meeting, replacing with an in-person retreat, details to follow.

Details on the European green crab situation. Karin provides numbers of green crabs captured in late summer in certain bays. They are more tolerant of fresh water than other species. Cecilia Gobin discussed Tribes' concerns Frankie: all the green crab monitoring locations in the County have active monitoring teams.

Kailey: We have a green crab team here; I think at two or three sites. We have found a couple in Wescott bay

Jeff: two sites on Lopez, I'm monitoring the south one, they haven't shown up on Lopez although present in Samish Bay

A good presentation from WDFW researcher who has developed monitoring of sea birds and mammals in collaboration with Tribes and other agencies, looking for species of concerns, assessing declines. Certain birds declining, need to protect forage fish for many of these birds of concern. No sighting of Dall's porpoises, which mostly eat eel pout.

Frankie: There has been good research conducted on harbor and Dall's porpoise in the Salish Sea over the past decade

9:13 AM **-Intertidal Monitoring Project on Yellow Island**

Chris Mantegna

UW grad student in the Roberts lab. Partnership with the Nature Conservancy and Matt Axling, current steward. Funding from Black in Marine Science (BIMS). Undergrad opportunity –three scholars came to study at Yellow Island. 2004 inventory of species in reports in FHL library. Basic question: what has changed since 1980 and 2004? use these data to teach students about ecology. Focus on macro-invertebrates. Students learned boat-operation, transect and quadrat data-gathering methods. Chris shares data for species presence resulting from 7 weeks of data collection. Pilot Program was successful. Yellow Island was a safe place for students to learn skills. Equipment was simple. Some challenges included timing of tides, species ID, etc. Showcases scholars' projects. Next: engage with local community, e.g., kayak guides, make this a long-term monitoring project. Thanks to all supporters and partners, including FHL

9:32 AM **Questions?**

Frankie and Sam: thanks for a great effort out at Yellow Island, very inspiring work, thanks for your presentation

Megan: I want to make sure your report is in the FHL library?

Chris: not yet, but soon

Frankie: I work with a group of women in marine mammal science, interest in collaborating?

www.wimms.weebly.com

Chris: Yes! I'll reach out!

Jeff: I notice there's only one mooring buoy at Yellow, could TNC put out more to invite boaters and without anchoring?

Chris: there are two, one on each side. I'll discuss with Matt. Not encourage long-term stays, need to strike a balance

9:37 AM **MRC Updates**

Sam Whitridge/Tyler Davis

- Aleutian Isle next steps

Sam Whitridge

Discussion about what MRC can do. The response group will debrief with County Council, we thought appropriate role for us to submit letter to County Council and other agencies involved about our concerns and help guide discussion. If that's something we want to do, key concerns: lack of air monitoring in the immediate aftermath. Reports of strong diesel odors on the west side, volunteer engagement when an event like this happens, and the current state of IOSA.

Next step is for MRC or subgroup to take lead on drafting such a letter so we're ready for council debrief.

There's an October 13 meeting 10am-noon meeting hosted by Ecology presentation on the Aleutian Isle incident,

Register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwocu2gqDwjGtcHb3buwccxm78XBfWJkY6z>

Lovel: Friends post on lessons learned from the ALEUTIAN ISLE response:

<https://sanjuans.org/2022/09/21/important-lessons-learned-from-an-oil-spill/>

I'm following up on when there's a spill in SRKW critical habitat, ensuring that there's a pre-approved plan for deploying and compensating whale deterrence wildlife response resources. This request has been submitted to the annual NW Area Committee Summit December 7th

Frankie: there's also a meeting coming up hosted by WDFW to discuss SRKW response, hazing and other issues

Sam: both Karin and Christina have expressed interest in helping

Frankie: let's check in with them, this letter needs to be completed promptly. Full debrief is happening at the end of this month, October 28th. Aleutian Isle response letter needs to be submitted by October 26th.

ACTION ITEM: Sam lead on facilitating, format on MRC letterhead, follow up with Christina, Karin, Lovel, and Jeff

9:50 AM • Debrief on NWSC Collaborative Conservation Workshop

Tyler/Lovel

Tyler: Great to get together, meet other MRC's. Purpose was to share, opportunities to 'cross borders', programs that can be adopted. We highlighted PFSS, adopt-a-beach, etc. Each MRC had a table, I presented for SJC.

Lovel: one strength of PFSS is that it's a collaboration of different groups. NW Straits project app highlighting conservation sites and connect with businesses, 'points' for visiting. Sites include Orcas ferry and FH port aquarium.

Frankie: would be great if members can provide sites to add for the county; a good project for MRC members lead on. <https://nwstraitsfoundation.org/activities/passport-to-marine-adventure/>

9:57 AM • Derelict Vessel List and Proposed vessel turn-in event

Sam

Whitridge

We discussed request to MRC's for derelict vessels to address with NW Straits funding in the next year. That list was submitted last week; Sam and Tyler went out in Sherriff's boat, tagged boats mostly in Blind Bay. Submitted list to NW Straits with 3 prioritized vessels, 2 in Blind Bay and the *Metaphor* by Orcas ferry Landing.

And, Adam and myself attended a prelim scoping call with NW Straits organized by Lucas Hart about a vessel turn-in event. They wanted to talk to port reps, discuss costs. There was interest. Is this something MRC wants to pursue?

Adam: Port doesn't have a yard classed for crunching of vessels at Jensens. For Turn in week we'd set up a time and location so that they'd all be crushed up and recycled at the same time. I want to look into it more, see what we can do

Level: I connected Marta with staff at NOAA about securing additional funding if we have more need, is that in works?

ACTION ITEM: Sam will follow up with Marta

Tyler: NW Straits funding is one opportunity for a few big boats, but we'll still continue through regular channels

Level: there's more federal funding available that could help catch up on backlog, want to make use of it

Frankie: The idea of this program is to get ahead of boats before they're emergencies, derelict vessel *prevention*.

Marta: most turn-in programs require the vessel is already out of the water, towing and haul-out costs are a deterrent

-more discussion of this idea, potential specific sites, site criteria, and potential barriers to execution

10:13 AM • Creosote Assessment Grant

Frances Robertson

Jackson pilings project due to start January 1. May need marine mammal monitors during piling removal. We have signed contract by WDFW for county wide assessment of creosote structures (also private as resources allow)

10:15 AM • MSA Update Next steps

Frances Robertson

Finalizing draft. Subcommittee, stay tuned to review final chapters and strategic actions. Goal to finish plan by end of year. November/December meetings will focus on getting this plan over the finish line. Once subcommittee signs off, Frankie will send to whole MRC.

Jeff: I'd like to be sent it with the subcommittee. I also have climate sustainability report to put in by end of month

10:16 AM • Final SRKW Westside Report

Frances Robertson

Available and completed on the county website. Thanks to everyone who assisted with that effort!

Jeff: the plan was impressive & well done, including graphics. Good to plant seeds of how to approach monitoring etc.

Question about adaptive management – will that be updated? How do we move forward as new solutions arise?

Frankie: I'm keen to discuss this with agencies, reasons put forward why monitoring wouldn't work are no longer true- technology exists and examples of working warden program, e.g., Robson Bight – community implemented.

Level: thanks Frankie for all your work on that report, I hope it will be recognized and incorporated

10:26 AM • MRC Logo Update

Tyler Davis

Moving forward with Jason LaClare, did artwork at American Camp. Shows recent sketches. Two orcas represent tale of protectors of the Salish Sea, that during the great floods the people and creatures were rescued by Orcas. The parallel is the MRC as protector of the Salish Sea. Kailey and Jason working on that, hope to reveal next meeting.

Kailey: Any comments or feedback on the Logo MRC?

Adam: love it

10:28 AM • Great Islands Cleanup Update

Tyler Davis

Didn't go as well as April. But good turnout, over 1,700lb. trash between SJ and Lopez (still waiting on Orcas numbers), and participation on Shaw (a boat went to pick up their load). Welcome suggestions on how to engage and connect with outer islands. Stuart had good response; Decatur interested in the Spring event, scheduled for April 22nd in 2023

10:30 Am • MRC Retreat Planning

Sam Whitridge

We think Grange will be best venue for kitchen space and cost. December 1st, 9am-until a little after lunch (last year it was until that 2pm interisland ferry). Frankie/Tyler/Sam can come back next month with some ideas for topics

Megan: there's a need to finalize the MSA plan

Kendra: that would be awesome, and Terrestrial managers are meeting in March for session at Moran. I suggest a combo of terrestrial/marine and then a day of marine managers' work. An opportunity to cross-pollinate with all that staff and to share out to other managers what's going on in marine environment i.e., buoy work, derelict vessel, and issues from freshwater affecting marine environment. We usually stay at facilities there.

Sam: So, you're suggesting an additional retreat piggy backing on terrestrial managers' workshop in March?

Frankie, Kailey, Megan, Erin, Adam, Lovel: in support

So, we'll just meet in December to wrap up MSA, then collaborate with terrestrial managers on Orcas in March

10:39am • Follow-up on LIO Rep

Sam Whitridge

We still need a rep. Adam has expressed interest in serving in role, we don't have a quorum so vote at next meeting.

10:40 Am • Pigeon Guillemot surveys

Tyler Davis

Who wants to get involved in pigeon guillemot network? happening in other counties. good indicator species, widespread/opportunistic, data from small sites are valuable. Assume Phil is interested, also Jeff, Kendra and Frankie.

<https://www.clallamcountymrc.org/projects/pigeon-guillemot-survey/>, [Home \(pigeonguillemot.org\)](http://Home(pigeonguillemot.org))

Frankie: there may also be some historic data from Kari Koski – she may be interested in doing them again -Surveys happen between May and September, minimum 10 weeks between June-August with prelim survey in May. Must cover breeding season. Minimum 1 day/week during peak season, minimum 1 hour survey finishes before 9am

10:44 AM **Committee member updates and any other business**

• Tyler: Cattle Point interpretative center deserves improvement. There is LTAC funding. That site has potential, MRC could take lead in how it's presented – layout, design, copy on interpretative boards etc., then “supported by SJ MRC”.

Megan: years ago, I worked with folks from several different agencies to put up interpretative signs, did that ever get used? That was a huge effort. it included Parks, DNR, BLM, me. Text was written for the bunker about the glaciers etc.

Tyler: Thanks, sounds like there are resources available, maybe this is just a funding issue to get this over the finish line

Kendra: I wonder if that's the stuff Paul McFarland mentioned, we know him through terrestrial managers. I'd love for MRC to have an anchor to communicate to public that we're here and there's a group people can go to to get involved

-Did we get a head nod for Tyler to go ahead and pursue LTAC funding? (at least \$50K)

Jeff: full support and a site on Lopez as well. Informative but also a gratitude portion, expressing gratitude to this place

Kendra: we could consider that for Orcas too, we can add to the bulletin board

Kailey: I support the redo too and am willing to be creative and help

Beth Tate: I'd be happy to participate in further conversations about improvements to the bunker on Cattle Point.

- Frankie: Another update - an adult female minke was found off Lopez ferry terminal yesterday, necropsy scheduled

Level and Erin are interested in updates on that

- Tyler: PFSS update - need community support for the idea of eco-bricks, potential for MRC members to mentor other projects for next school semester in FHHS, program set up by Sam Garson

- Jeff: about the eelgrass vessel survey monitoring project, was there any report? Could you summarize?

ACTION ITEM: yes, Tyler will do that

Frankie: we're summarizing those for quarterly final reports. We have summaries for False Bay visitor data and ulva

- And, Frankie has a mooring buoy assessment project that needs to be done by end of year. Needs rudimentary GIS experience, maybe a student could be available? probably average 10-15 hours a week, some basic density analysis

Megan: there's a research class here doing drone and GIS work, I wonder if the class wants the project

ACTION ITEM: Frankie can write up a little blurb about this and send to Megan

11:01 AM **Adjourn MRC Meeting, Convene CAG Meeting**

11:02 AM **CAG Updates**

Sam Whitridge

- SRFB Funding Meeting Update

Finalize 2022 grant round. SRFB just met for annual funding meeting. Sam shows view of final list: 6 projects were approved last week, 2 not funded, 2 were added to our list as alternates. We learned the Coastal Wetland Mapping project found other funding, so the amount Friends requested for that goes to eelgrass recovery phase 2 project. That was \$2.2, almost 2.5 million dollars of work funded in SJ county. The North Shore project is on list for PSAR large capital

11:05Am • MacKaye Harbor Project Completion

This is a salmon recovery project completed, funded by PSAR in 2020 grant round, we awarded \$75K and now armor removal is complete, road and dock are open, kayak-friendly public access north of boat launch, restored sitting area. Next steps: interpretative signage and planting planned for February next year. Kudos to everyone, Byron and Krista

11:07 AM • Upcoming WSC Meeting

Sam will attend virtually, annual coalition of salmon entities, updates from that meeting to deliver in November

11:08 AM **Adjourn CAG**