

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting**

## **Meeting Summary**

**January 15, 2014 6:30-8:30PM**

**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201**  
**Admin East Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 6A02**

<b>MRC Members Present</b> Thomas Hoban Paul Schlenger Susan Tarpley Brent Hackney Cathy Stanley Bob Hillmann Simon Geerlofs Lincoln Loehr Franchesca Perez	<b>Staff, Presenters, and Others</b> Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County MRC Lead Staff Alyson Rae, Snohomish County MRC Program Assistant  Jamey Selleck, Hart Crowser Michelle Havey, Hart Crowser Steven Liedlich, Citizen Andrea Copping, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
<b>Absent</b> Keeley O'Connell, Absent	
<b>Summary of Decisions</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The October 23, 2013 MRC Meeting Summary was approved.</li><li>• The December 5, 2013 MRC Meeting Summary was approved.</li><li>• MRC members elected Paul Schlenger as MRC Chair and Simon Geerlofs and Francesca Perez as Co-Vice Chairs.</li><li>• MRC members elected Lincoln Loehr as the NWSC representative and Tom Hoban as the alternate.</li></ul>	
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• January 27, 2014 and February 26, 2014: Starlight Beach Walks, Edmonds and Mukilteo</li><li>• February 1, 2014: Sound Waters, Oak Harbor</li><li>• February 24, 2014: MRC Retreat, 3pm-7pm</li></ul>	

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Tom Hoban opened the MRC meeting with a quorum at 6:31 pm.

### **Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries**

Lincoln Loehr made a motion to approve the October 23, 2013 MRC Meeting Summary and the December 5, 2013 MRC Meeting Summary. The motion was seconded by Simon Geerlofs. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **Snow Caps to White Caps Model Results**

Andrea Copping of Pacific Northwest National Laboratories (PNNL) presented the results of the Snow Caps to White Caps project as it relates to the Snohomish Basin (WRIA 7). The goal of this project is to improve management of water and water related activities and to understand the impacts associated with likely climate change and land use patterns. Using an integrated modeling approach, PNNL modeled scenarios based on impacts from climate change and increased human population and development. This study evaluates the response of the estuary to river runoff, response of floodplains to river flow and coastal ocean impacts as well as the

extent that the salt wedge pushes upriver. Through modeling, PNNL found that in high river flow conditions, climate change has a greater effect on the watershed but in low river flow conditions, land use/land cover has a greater effect. In addition, when there is low river flow, the salt wedge pushes higher in the river. The salt wedge reacts similarly as a result of sea level rise in the model. Findings such as these will help water managers to make more informed decisions about our water resources along with many other future applications.

### **MRC Elected Positions**

Tom Hoban announced he is stepping down as MRC Chair and as the Northwest Straits Representative. Paul Schlenger volunteered to serve as Chair. Lincoln Loehr expressed interest in serving as the Northwest Straits Representative. Simon Gearlofs volunteered to continue serving as co-vice chair, and Francesca Perez indicated interest in the other co-vice chair position. Tom offered to continue to attend the Local Integrating Organization (LIO) meetings as this is a large time commitment.

**Motion to elect Paul Schlenger as MRC Chair and Simon Gearlofs and Francesca Perez as Co-Vice Chairs: Simon Gearlofs. Motion seconded by: Susan Tarpley. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

**A motion was made and seconded to elect Lincoln Loehr as the MRC representative to the NWSC with Tom Hoban as the alternate. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

### **Starlight Beach Walks**

The MRC is co-sponsoring two Starlight Beach Walk events this winter:

- Olympic Beach  
200 Admiral Way, Edmonds  
Monday, January 27, 2014
- Mukilteo Lighthouse Park  
304 Lincoln Ave, Mukilteo  
Wednesday, February 26, 2014

Multiple MRC members will attend each beach walk. Susan Tarpley volunteered to give a five minute MRC overview at the beginning of each event. MRC members will email each Snohomish County Councilmember and invite them to the events as they are generally well attended by local residents.

### **Nearshore Public Information Meetings**

Bob Hillmann reported on a recent SEPA (State Environmental Policy Act) meeting with City of Everett, Snohomish County Surface Water Management staff and Permitting Department staff, and Everett Public Utility District (PUD). PUD wants to explore the impact sediment placement might have on a pipe that would be buried underneath five feet of fill as a result of the project. An archaeological study of the site by AMEC will be completed during the week of January 21, 2014. A three way interlocal agreement with Snohomish County, City of Everett, and Port of Everett is almost complete and will be valid for ten years. A public information meeting will be scheduled for April 2014.

### **BNSF Landslide Working Group and PSP Update**

Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) and Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) held a kickoff meeting on January 3, 2014 to discuss a cooperative agreement concerning landslide debris management. PSP is interested in forming an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between

Department of Ecology and BNSF to address the issue of how sediments deposited across railroad tracks can be beneficially reused to advance nearshore restoration projects. The meeting was attended by Todd Hass (PSP), Kathleen Herrmann (Snohomish County), Dave Lucas (Snohomish County), Alex Mitchell (PSP), Hilary Wilkinson (Veda Environmental), and Jim Darling (MFA). The next meeting will be held during the week of January 27, 2014.

## Announcements

- The March MRC Meeting will be moved to March 26, 2014 due to staff conflicts with the original date.
- Kathleen suggested that the MRC have a February retreat in place of the regular monthly meeting to discuss project planning for 2014. MRC members agreed. Alyson will create a doodle poll to schedule a 4 hour weekday retreat.
- Kathleen reported that Paul Argites was hired on to the Northwest Straits Commission to help coordinate a new marine debris cleanup project in the Puget Sound. Paul has asked the MRC for any information related to marine debris accumulation (plastics, Styrofoam, fishing nets, creosote-treated wood, litter, etc.) in Snohomish County. After a list of cleanup sites is developed, Dept. of Ecology restoration crews will complete site cleanup work.
- Kathleen reported on the first Leque Island Stakeholder Committee meeting held on January 8, 2014. The meeting was well attended by a range of stakeholders including waterfowl hunting, pheasant hunting, wildlife viewing and photography, dog training, fish biologists, habitat restoration, local jurisdictions, a local water district, etc. Kathleen or Brent Hackney will attend the remaining stakeholder meetings. After the stakeholder meetings, the public will have the opportunity to provide input on design alternatives in Spring 2014.
- Brent Hackney announced that NRC completed the draft 2013 Derelict Crab Pot Removal report for Snohomish County. Compared to past reports, this report elaborated on the causes for pot loss. Also, the study found that pot loss per day increased from 2012. In the report, Kyle Antonelis recommended continuing the derelict crab pot removal in the study area for the next few years to collect more data and observe trends. The MRC will discuss this further at the MRC retreat in February.
- Susan Tarpley spoke with Patricia Love from the City of Mukilteo regarding the Edgewater Beach Access project. Patricia said that right now, the City is working on a short term solution for temporary beach access but that in the summer, the City of Mukilteo and Port of Mukilteo will meet to discuss a solution for permanent access. Patricia asked if the MRC would like to participate in this meeting to discuss beach access as well as plans for Edgewater Beach and potential signage/programs. MRC members expressed interest in attending this meeting.
- Susan reported that Washington Department of Transportation is working on a response to the Snohomish MRC's letter regarding the Mukilteo Multimodal Project.
- Susan announced that the City of Mukilteo is applying for a grant for the daylighting of Japanese Gulch. Patricia Love asked if the MRC would write a letter in support of the project. MRC members expressed interest in drafting this letter once Susan receives more information from Patricia.
- Lincoln Loehr attended a Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (PSEMP) meeting to discuss consolidated monitoring efforts for cities that would include using caged mussels for project monitoring instead of in water monitoring.

**8:51 Adjourn**

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting**

## **DRAFT Meeting Notes**

**February 24, 2014 3:00-7:00PM**  
**Inn at Port Gardner**  
**1700 West Marine View Drive, Everett WA 98201**

### **Attendees**

Tom Hoban, MRC Member  
Susan Tarpley, MRC Member  
Bob Hillmann, MRC Member  
Cathy Stanley, MRC Member  
Franchesca Perez, MRC Member  
Brent Hackney, MRC Member  
Lincoln Loehr, MRC Member  
Paul Schlenger, MRC Member  
Keeley O'Connell, MRC Member  
Mike Montanari, MRC Appointee  
Mike Ehlebracht, MRC Appointee  
Ginny Broadhurst, NWSC Executive Director  
Abby Hook, Facilitator Hook- Knauer Inc.  
Kathleen Herrmann, MRC Lead Staff  
Alyson Rae, MRC Program Assistant

### **Approval of MRC meeting summary**

Tom Hoban motioned to approve the Jan. 15 meeting summary, seconded by Brent Hackney.

### **Guiding Principles**

- MRC Staff developed a set of Guiding Principles through which to evaluate potential future MRC projects. MRC Members thought they were helpful and had some additional suggestions including:
  - Add a community component – how does project relate to the community/create community involvement?
  - Can we leverage other partners?
  - How does the project help decision makers to make better policies?
  - Is a project “Value-added” to the overall MRC program?

### **Current Projects**

- Kathleen Herrmann gave an overview of all the current projects. Afterward discussion provided some ideas for improvement in the future including:
  - Create a timeline of projects commitments
  - After nearshore project is completed (winter 2014-2015), Kathleen will have more staff time available for larger projects
- Project Specific Ideas:
  - Derelict gear video promotion ideas
    - Public access channels
    - Digital trade magazines
    - TVs in West Marine, Port of Everett?
  - MRC members will help with more suggestions when video is complete

# Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting

## DRAFT Meeting Notes

- Port Susan MSA
  - Goal is to keep this as a two county project – combine efforts in both Island and Snohomish counties instead of focusing efforts in just one county
  - Kathleen could use assistance in keeping this moving forward and continuing to meet with the advisory team
- Port Susan Incentives Project
  - Looking for MRC member(s) to help to review strategies and attend incentives workshop
- OA Health Forum – will need MRC member volunteers for event/planning

### Current Project Discussion

- Derelict gear projects have been successful
  - According to NRC another year of study would be beneficial
  - MRC members feel this should be high on the list for funding for 2014
  - Little staff time required to manage project
- Project lead roles
  - Focus on specific project to provide assistance to staff
  - Gather information/expertise and update Kathleen/MRC members with this information
  - Tom – Needs to be the right fit between project and project lead – helpful for the lead to have expertise in project area
- Subcommittees
  - Important to have staff attend subcommittee meetings
  - High staff time required to coordinate subcommittee meetings in the past
  - Kathleen: If MRC members want to have subcommittees, members could have a larger role. For example, someone takes lead in scheduling, writing agenda, etc.
  - Keeley: What need does the MRC have for subcommittees beyond project specific right now? There doesn't seem to be a need for extra committees now, should continue with project specific committees
  - MRC members agreed project leads and subcommittees should continue using current system – is functioning well for the committee now
- Susan: We could work on communication post event with MRC members and staff (how do people report on projects/events attended?)
- Should we have more time for announcements at monthly meetings?

### Workplan/future project discussion

- We don't want to automatically exclude small price tag projects because they could be good ideas and high impact.
- Nearshore Candidate Site List
  - Research needed to update nearshore candidate site list
  - Franny and Paul will take the lead on updating the list
- Meadowdale Beach
  - Kathleen suggested meeting with Parks Director to discuss the reality of this project. How could the MRC be involved in this project?

# Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting

## DRAFT Meeting Notes

- Keeley volunteered to help on the project (Abby suggested partnering with Jason Mulvihill-Koontz)
- Edmonds Marsh Project (suggested by Keeley)
  - City of Edmonds project
  - RCO will not pay for certain aspects of the project
  - Need for storm water studies (water quality testing/drainage) – perhaps this is something the MRC could assist with?
  - Questions - How well does this project fit in with MRC guiding principles?
- Blue Carbon project (suggested by Keeley)

### MRC Member Round Robin

MRC members went around the room and talked about projects that they thought would be good candidates to apply the guiding principles criteria.

- Bulkhead removal project/soft shore armoring (Cathy)
  - Follow up with homeowners who had site visits from Port Susan workshops
  - Warm Beach – community bulkhead removal project?
  - Kitsap Co. project – identified landowners/projects and then applied for funding (EPA grant)
  - Potential soft shore armoring funding for project on Tulalip Tribes land (contact Terry Williams)
- Derelict vessel removal program (Lincoln) (Tom)
  - MRC could map vessels in Snohomish Estuary (especially those with leaking or potential to leak fuel) – how much of this has already been done by DNR?
  - Need to determine the status of being reimbursed for any costs associated with removal.
  - Check with San Juan County who is starting a new program.
- Investing in large capital projects (Franny)
  - MRC coastal streams initiative (has high habitat potential – could be similar to Greenwood Creek project)
  - Project from nearshore candidate site list such as Meadowdale Park.
- Derelict gear removal and education (Brent)
  - Could we combine derelict gear removal and education projects?
  - Might not work for contracting purposes at the County
  - Will be the focus of discussion at the March 26 MRC meeting
- Shrimper/Crabber Education
  - MRC members could present to local groups (Brent/Bob?)
  - Seattle Boat Show
  - Show new video at these venues also
  - Staff will let MRC members know when video is available for distribution/presentations
- Stream/estuary project (Paul)
  - Support efforts of local projects like Willow Creek (Edmonds Marsh) or Japanese Gulch
- Contractor training for soft shore armoring (Susan)
  - Could include County/City planning/permitting departments

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting**

## **DRAFT Meeting Notes**

- Suzi Wong Swint could help on this project? Could she also help with shrimper education project?
- Sound IQ (Tom)
  - Ginny suggested having a presentation by Suzanne at MRC meeting

### **Next Steps**

- Staff will develop a workplan with several options for review by the MRC for additional feedback. Need to consider workplan carefully to ensure that the project list is doable.
- Staff will create a current project timeline/Gantt chart
- Staff will create a document to track MRC Member presentation and education and outreach efforts
- MRC Members- meet with their district' County Council representative
  - Port Susan MSA – need to pass resolution to designate area as Marine Stewardship Area
  - Tom will help with networking with County Councilmembers re: individual meetings/Port Susan MSA
  - Keeley can organize free flights from Lighthawk – perhaps County Councilmembers would be interested in this
- Paul – Need for additional MRC staff capacity, project list is great but more than we can accomplish with current staff.
- Paul and Franny are going to work on the next steps for the Nearshore Candidate sites study.

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting**

## **Meeting Summary**

**March 26, 2014 6:30-8:30PM**

**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201**  
**Admin East Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 6A02**

<b>MRC Members Present</b>	<b>Staff, Presenters, and Others</b>
Thomas Hoban	Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County MRC Lead Staff
Paul Schlenger	Alyson Rae, Snohomish County MRC Program Assistant
Susan Tarpley	
Brent Hackney	
Cathy Stanley	
Bob Hillmann	
Simon Geerlofs	Kyle Antonelis, Natural Resource Consultants
Lincoln Loehr	Chrys Bertolotto, WSU Snohomish County Extension
Franchesca Perez	Joan Drinkwin, Northwest Straits Foundation (NWSF)
Keeley O'Connell	Eddie Adams, Citizen
Mike Montanari	David Bain, Sound Action
Mike Ehlebracht	
<b>Absent</b>	
None	
<b>Summary of Decisions</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The February 24, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary was approved.</li></ul>	
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014: Annual Presentation to County Council, 9AM</li><li>• April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014: MRC meeting</li><li>• April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014: Nearshore Beach Restoration Project Public Meeting, Our Saviors Lutheran Church, Everett 6PM</li><li>• May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014: Ocean Acidification Forum &amp; MRC Meeting, Everett Station</li></ul>	

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Paul Schlenger opened the MRC meeting with a quorum at 6:35 pm.

### **Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries**

Keeley O'Connell made a motion to approve the February 24, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary. The motion was seconded by Bob Hillmann. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **Port Gardner Crab Pot Removal**

Kyle Antonelis (Natural Resource Consultants) highlighted derelict crab pot removal data from the most recent (2013) removal and compared that to past removal operations in the Port Gardner Study Area. Last year, the majority of trapped crab where found in pots that used proper escape cord – some had disintegrated escape cord, but the pots continued to hold crab. Overall, escape cord compliance has fluctuated since 2008 but in 2013 there was a 16% increase in escape cord compliance (sport fishing) from previous period. After a downward trend in pot loss

per fishing day was reported in 2012, the 2013 pot loss rate is more than double what was reported in 2012 but is still about half of that reported in 2009. In addition to removing derelict pots in the Study Area, this year's removal efforts focused on determining the reason for pot loss. The top two reasons for pot loss were user error/gear malfunction (33%) and vessel strike (29%). In future removal efforts, reasons for pot loss will continue to be recorded in order to identify trends in this data. One potential cause of pot loss, insufficient buoy line, may be a major cause for loss of pots that are present at depths > 105 ft., but not observed during this project since that is below the safe removal depth for divers. MRC members suggested attempting to remove some of the deeper pots using an ROV.

### **Future of Crab Pot Removal Project Discussion**

Joan Drinkwin (NWSF) facilitated a discussion about the future of the crab pot removal for the Snohomish MRC. Some of the key project ideas and questions resulting from the discussion include:

- One potential project under consideration is a study on crab pot design. The NWSF has a pending grant application for this project. The MRC could participate by assisting in the lab portion of the project at the NOAA Mukilteo facility. Project results would be provided to WDFW to inform future policies.
- Discussion was held around how crab license fees currently being used by the State. There may be the potential to use some of these funds for MRC projects.
- Past recreational crabber education was successful but at a high cost per contact hour with the public. The MRC would like to explore how to reach a wider audience potentially via new technology such as phone apps or other ideas.
- Discussion was held around the question: why are pots lost? MRC members agreed on the importance of understanding the root of the problem. Perhaps a feasibility study is needed. This could include data mining/online surveys to crabbers, reviewing past lost crab pot data from report hotline, or partnering with WDFW to collect data.
- Discussion was also held around the question: How do we know when we are successful? What metric should we be using?

The MRC will form an advisory subcommittee that will meet with Joan to address the questions raised and discuss the ideas further.

### **Retreat Summary/Next Steps**

Paul Schlenger summarized the retreat and the various materials that have been developed as a result of the retreat including the MRC Guiding Principles and 2014-2015 Workplan documents. Kathleen and Paul narrowed the number of projects listed on the workplan using the MRC Guiding Principles. Kathleen highlighted important aspects of the revised workplan including expanding capacity to work on additional capital restoration projects. Francesca Perez and Susan Tarpley expressed interest in beginning to work on an oil spill preparedness project to partner with Snohomish County to assess current and future oil spill response efforts. One question that staff will address at the next meeting is how the workplan fits into the 2011-2016 MRC Strategic Plan. After reviewing the workplan, MRC members will provide comments to staff via email. MRC chair and staff will create a matrix of identified projects and potential MRC project leads for the next meeting.

### **Project Updates/Announcements**

- Futurewise has been hired to complete the Port Susan Incentives Project. The April 16<sup>th</sup> MRC meeting will be dedicated to MRC member comments on the project and incentives list. A workshop will be held in the coming months.

- Kathleen will present the Nearshore Restoration Project at a County Council meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 for approval.
- The Puget Sound Partnership asked Kathleen to send a letter of support for the MRC's Near Term Actions (NTA) submitted to the PSP. The NTA relates to the Port Susan MSA. MRC members would like to send a letter of support to take ownership of the NTA.
- Susan Tarpley presented the MRC's derelict gear project at the March 5<sup>th</sup> Actions and Oceans: A Marine Debris Event in partnership with the Everett ORCA program.
- Francesca Perez attended a March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Snohomish County/Stanwood Regional Parks Planning Meeting which focused on Stanwood tourism on behalf of the MRC.
- Lincoln Loehr attended the March 20-21<sup>st</sup> Northwest Straits Commission Retreat in Padilla Bay. The retreat focused on strategic planning and also discussed the future of funding for the NWSC.
- Simon announced the Snohomish Public Utility District's permit for the tidal energy project in Admiralty Inlet was approved.
- Keeley O'Connell announced that an Edmonds Marsh educational walk will be held on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 in partnership with Feet First.

**8:40 Adjourn**

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting**

## **Meeting Summary**

**April 16, 2014 6:30-8:30PM**

**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201**  
**Admin East Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 6A02**

<b>MRC Members Present</b>	<b>Staff, Presenters, and Others</b>
Thomas Hoban	Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County MRC Lead Staff
Paul Schlenger	Alyson Rae, Snohomish County MRC Program Assistant
Susan Tarpley	
Brent Hackney	
Cathy Stanley	
Bob Hillmann	
Simon Geerlofs	
Lincoln Loehr	
Franchesca Perez	Heather Trim, Futurewise
Keeley O'Connell	Hans Hurn, Hart Crowser
Mike Montanari	Michelle Havey, Hart Crowser
Mike Ehlebracht	Allison Sanders, Snohomish County SWM Marla Koberstein, Adopt A Stream Foundation Suzanne Schull, Padilla Bay Reserve
<b>Absent</b>	
None	

  

<b>Summary of Decisions</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The March 26, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary was approved.</li></ul>

  

<b>Upcoming Events</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014: Annual Meeting with SWM and NWSC Directors, Snohomish County Campus, 3pm</li><li>April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014: Nearshore Beach Restoration Project Public Meeting, Our Saviors Lutheran Church, Everett, 6pm</li><li>May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014: Ocean Health Forum &amp; MRC Meeting, Everett Station, 4:30pm</li></ul>

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Paul Schlenger opened the MRC meeting with a quorum at 6:35 pm.

### **Approval of MRC Meeting Summary**

Keeley O'Connell made a motion to approve the March 26, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary. The motion was seconded by Lincoln Loehr. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **Sound IQ**

Suzanne Schull, Padilla Bay Reserve, gave a presentation on Sound IQ, which is an interactive mapping application currently used by three other MRCs in the Northwest Straits. The Snohomish County MRC would like to make use of the application to display Snohomish County MRC data. With Sound IQ, data can be separated to view by location, year, and individual beaches. Next steps for the MRC include deciding which data should be displayed on Sound IQ, how long the data should be made available, and what is the overall purpose for displaying the data. Snohomish County GIS staff will assist the MRC with preparing data for the

application. While the data will not be uploaded until the fall after an application upgrade to Geocortex, the MRC can begin the process of gathering data and addressing these questions. Alyson will organize a meeting between Snohomish County GIS staff, MRC staff, Suzanne, Paul Schlenger and Bob Hillmann.

### **Port Susan Incentives Project**

Heather Trim, Futurewise, gave a presentation on the status of the Port Susan Incentives Project. Futurewise is the consultant hired by Snohomish County of behalf of the MRC for the project. The goal of the project is to utilize the Futurewise report, *Incentives to Help Meet Priority Shoreline Restoration Objectives*, to create incentives for Port Susan homeowners to remove bulkheads or use soft shore alternatives on their property. Kathleen Herrmann met with Snohomish County Planning and Development Services who is interested in partnering on the project. The next step is for Futurewise to conduct interviews with interested parties to narrow the list to incentives which would be most effective in Snohomish County. A stakeholder workshop is also being planned for June 2014 to discuss a list of the top ten incentives.

### **Project Updates/Announcements**

- Kathleen Herrmann reported that Noah Haglund, The Herald, is working on a story about the Nearshore Restoration Project to be published Wednesday, April 23, prior to the public information meeting.
- Kathleen reported that the Oil Spill subcommittee met on April 15<sup>th</sup> and was also attended by Mike Ehlebracht, Franchesca Perez, Alyson Rae, and Susan Tarpley. Franchesca joined a new oil spill task force group, led by the Department of Ecology, and will represent both the Stillaguamish Tribe and the MRC. Subcommittee members divided up the task of reviewing the four Geographic Response Plans that include sections of Snohomish County.
- Kathleen announced that NOAA will host a week-long class on the science of oil spills in Seattle in August 2014. Susan Tarpley and Bob Hillmann have expressed interest in attending on behalf of the MRC.
- Brent Hackney announced he will be ordering MRC logo gear. Previous orders were completed by H&L Sports.
- Keeley O'Connell announced an Earthcorps leadership lunch will be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup> 11:30am in South Lake Union. Keeley will be the keynote speaker.
- Keeley announced that Celebrate Edmonds and Feet First will host an Edmonds Marsh Walk on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 10-11am.
- Keeley announced that the Edmonds Watershed Fun Festival will be held on May 31<sup>st</sup> and included tours of Edmonds Marsh.
- Heather Trim announced the next Salish Sea Shoreline Forum will be on May 20<sup>th</sup> in Georgetown (Seattle) and focus on the science of shorelines.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:42pm.**

# Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting

## Meeting Summary

May 14, 2014 4:30-5:30PM  
Everett Station, 3201 Smith Ave, Everett WA 98201  
Weyerhaeuser Room

MRC Members Present	Staff, Presenters, and Others
Thomas Hoban	Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County MRC Lead Staff
Susan Tarpley	Alyson Rae, Snohomish County MRC Program Assistant
Brent Hackney	
Cathy Stanley	
Bob Hillmann	
Simon Geerlofs	
Lincoln Loehr	
Franchesca Perez	
Keeley O'Connell	
Mike Montanari	
Mike Ehlebracht	Caroline Gibson, Northwest Straits Commission
<b>Absent</b>	
Paul Schlenger, Excused	
<b>Summary of Decisions</b>	
• The April 16, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary was approved.	
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
• June 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2014: Forage Fish Training, Mukilteo, 10am-2pm	

### Welcome and Introductions

Franchesca Perez opened the MRC meeting with a quorum at 4:43 pm.

### Approval of MRC Meeting Summary

Tom Hoban made a motion to approve the April 16, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary. The motion was seconded by Bob Hillmann. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### MRC Grant Request for Proposals and Workplan

Kathleen announced that the Northwest Straits Commission (NWSC) sent a request for proposals to the MRC for a 2014-2015 grant. A grant of up to approximately \$72,000 is anticipated. A portion of this grant must be used for administrative tasks that are standardized across all MRCs. The remaining funds will go toward a project/projects that clearly demonstrates implementation of the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) Action Agenda, and is linked to the local MRC through direct oversight and/or implementation.

Kathleen presented two ideas for projects to include in the grant proposal. The first is a Port Susan feeder bluff project in which the MRC would work with the Northwest Straits Foundation (NWSF) to include Snohomish County in the analysis of potential feeder bluff restoration projects being completed by Coastal Geologic Services. Projects will be developed by identifying and prioritizing feasible armor removal projects at historic feeder bluffs (sediment source bluffs) and by employing focused outreach to achieve landowner

willingness to participate in restoration activities. Conceptual designs for select projects will be completed. Kathleen has asked Coastal Geologic Services for a proposed budget.

The second project option is to partner with the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) on a feasibility study of landslide debris for placement on nearshore beaches. The goal of this study is to address concerns from Washington Department of Ecology and Burlington Northern Santa Fe in signing a Memorandum of Understanding between the two entities for use of landslide materials in beach restoration projects with a specific focus on Snohomish and King County shorelines. The MRC funds would help support the completion of this study.

## **Project Updates/Announcements**

- Tom Hoban and Franchesca Perez reported on meetings with County Councilmembers: Brian Sullivan, Ken Klein, and Terry Ryan on May 13, 2014. These meetings were held to discuss removing the MRC sunset clause in County Code and the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area Resolution. Brian Sullivan offered to take the lead on getting council approval on the Port Susan Resolution. Terry Ryan took the lead to remove the MRC sunset clause. These meetings were a great opportunity to the MRC to interact with the two new councilmembers and showcase the work of the MRC.
- Kathleen Herrmann reported on the Nearshore Project Public Information Meeting on April 24, 2014. The public was interested and supportive of the project. In addition to the public meeting, it is likely that a funding shortfall in the project will be made up with increased funds from one of the current project grants.
- Kathleen also announced that Howarth Park was closed for swimming for a few days due to a sewer spill. Bob Hillmann commented that sewer spills are common at this location and the City is working on a solution.
- Kathleen reported that Heather Trim is coordinating interviews for the Port Susan Shoreline Incentives Project.
- Kathleen announced that the July 16<sup>th</sup> MRC meeting will be a summer potluck at the Meadowdale Park Picnic Shelter. Logan Daniels will give a tour of the site and discuss the project RFQ. MRC Members invited elected officials during their May meetings to attend this potluck.
- Alyson Rae reported that the Snohomish County Sheriff's Department received a grant for a derelict vessel prevention program and is interested in meeting with MRC members to discuss how we might be able to partner on this project. Tom Hoban and Brent Hackney expressed interest in attending this meeting.
- Kathleen announced that a meeting will be held in Lacey on June 19<sup>th</sup> to present the results from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) 2012 Mussel Watch Pilot Expansion Study.
- Caroline Gibson announced a Forage Fish Training Certification for MRC members that will be held on June 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., interested members must contact Caroline to register.
- Kathleen announced that Brian MacDonald, WDFW, contacted the MRC for assistance in identifying locations throughout Snohomish County where it may be possible to deploy and operate wildlife rehabilitation equipment following an oil spill. Kathleen asked that MRC members send suggested locations as soon as possible for consideration by WDFW.
- Brent Hackney reported that Joan Drinkwin, NWSF, contacted him to volunteer to test out a new crabbing technology meant to decrease crab pot loss.
- Brent is going to coordinate orders for MRC apparel so please coordinate with him on any order you'd like. <http://www.companycasuals.com/HLCORPORATE/start.jsp>
- Susan Tarpley announced that she, and other beach naturalists, are noticing many small sea stars on Edmonds beaches in comparison to a few months ago. This could be a good sign for sea star populations.

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:43pm.**

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting**

## **Meeting Summary**

**June 18, 2014 6:30-8:30PM**

**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201**  
**Admin East Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 6A02**

<b>MRC Members Present</b> Susan Tarpley Brent Hackney Bob Hillmann Simon Geerlofs Lincoln Loehr Franchesca Perez Paul Schlenger Mike Ehlebracht  <b>Absent</b> Thomas Hoban Keeley O'Connell, Excused Cathy Stanley, Excused Mike Montanari, Excused	<b>Staff, Presenters, and Others</b> Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County MRC Lead Staff Alyson Rae, Snohomish County MRC Program Assistant
<b>Summary of Decisions</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The May 14, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary was approved.</li><li>• MRC members approved the Port Susan Bulkhead Removal Project to be submitted for the 2014-2015 MRC grant.</li></ul>	
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• June 19, 2014: Mussel Watch Pilot Expansion Update, Department of Ecology, 10am</li><li>• July 2, 2014: Port Susan Incentives Workshop, By Invite Only</li><li>• July 16, 2014: MRC Summer Picnic and Project Tour, Meadowdale Park, 5:30pm</li></ul>	

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Paul Schlenger opened the MRC meeting with a quorum at 6:41 pm. Lincoln Loehr made a motion to bypass the introduction item on the agenda since only MRC members were present at the meeting. The motion was seconded by Simon Geerlofs. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **Approval of MRC Meeting Summary**

Brent Hackney made a motion to approve the May 14, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary. The motion was seconded by Bob Hillmann. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **NWSC Strategic Plan**

Lincoln Loehr reported that Ginny Broadhurst (Northwest Straits Commission) requested that each MRC review and provide comments on the draft Northwest Straits Initiative strategic plan that was a product from the NWSC retreat. MRC members discussed the content of the draft strategic plan and created a list of feedback.

One aspect of the document MRC members discussed was the overall layout which they suggested could be more balanced. Currently each section has a slightly different layout and these should be consistent. MRC members suggested that the plan attempt to address the question - What is the niche of the NWSC? Many of the goals stated in the document are similar to those of other organizations and this document may be more effective if it addresses the NWSC's specialty. Additional comments surrounded the purpose/intended use of the plan. MRC members noted it is unclear who the intended audience is for the document and whether it will be used internally or externally. Lincoln will summarize the MRC's feedback and complete an online survey to return to the NWSC.

### **MRC Grant RFP and Workplan**

Kathleen Herrmann proposed the Port Susan Bulkhead Removal Project Phase I for the 2014-2015 MRC grant through the NWSC. The potential MRC grant projects suggested at the May MRC meeting were determined to not be feasible projects for this grant. The MRC Executive Committee met and discussed the proposed project. The Port Susan Bulkhead Removal Project will consist of hiring a consultant to analyze the Port Susan shoreline to determine erosion and infrastructure risk for each shoreline parcel.

Landowners of specific parcels, selected based on certain criteria, will be contacted to determine interest in a bulkhead removal project on their property. This information can be used to guide future bulkhead removal projects in Port Susan and additionally may be used by the Snohomish County Planning and Development Services when making decisions about bulkhead permits. The project will build upon past projects and workshops conducted in the Port Susan area.

**Susan Tarpley made a motion to approve the Port Susan Bulkhead Removal Project for the 2014-2015 MRC grant. The motion was seconded by Brent Hackney. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

Kathleen presented an overview of the draft MRC workplan budget and staff hours for 2014-2015. Kathleen noted that the draft workplan is ambitious and will require significant commitment and leadership from MRC members to successfully complete the projects. A few MRC members stepped up to lead subcommittees: Bob Hillmann will be the lead for Sound IQ and Susan Tarpley will be the lead for Oil Spill Response and Preparedness. A few projects from the workplan were discussed in detail including proposed crabber and shrimper education projects. The crabber education project would consist of a survey to current recreational crabbers regarding lost pots. This would help to gain additional data on reasons for pot loss to inform future outreach efforts. The shrimper education project still needs to be scoped but the MRC has hours allotted for Suzi Wong Swint (Snohomish County Staff) to work on an outreach project. Brent has suggestions for this project to discuss at a future meeting. Alyson will schedule a crabber education subcommittee meeting to discuss both projects.

The workplan document is a draft and MRC members will have the opportunity to contribute feedback at future meetings. MRC members agreed that the list includes a great diversity of projects and that no projects should be removed if possible. MRC staff were encouraged to ask for MRC member assistance with projects when needed.

## **Project Updates/Announcements**

- Kathleen Herrmann announced that the Snohomish County Council designated Port Susan as a voluntary marine stewardship area May 28, an action that will help future conservation efforts. In addition, draft footage has been filmed for the Port Susan video and the Stillaguamish Tribe is contributing to funding to complete the project.
- Kathleen reported that a \$240,000 ESRP grant was received to fill a funding gap for the Nearshore Restoration Project.
- Kathleen reported that MRC staff, Tom Hoban, and Brent Hackney met with the Snohomish County Sheriff's Department about derelict vessels in the Snohomish River. Kathleen joined the Sheriff's Department and Washington Department of Natural Resources employees on a boat tour looking at derelict vessels in the Snohomish River Estuary.
- Alyson reported that the Oil Spill Subcommittee met on June 4. Subcommittee members are continuing to gather information to determine the status of oil spill planning in the county and where MRC member expertise can be the most helpful in this process.
- Alyson reported on the Sound IQ meeting held on June 17. Several MRC members and Snohomish County GIS staff, Allison Sanders, attended the meeting. Allison is gathering all MRC GIS data and compiling in a database for the committee to review to determine which data sets will be uploaded to Sound IQ.
- Kathleen announced that Will Hall is exploring interest in the County to develop a public benefit rating system (PBRS) plan for Snohomish County to include bulkheads.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.**

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting**

## **Meeting Summary**

**July 16, 2014 5:00-7:00PM**  
**Meadowdale Beach Park**  
**15433 75<sup>th</sup> Pl W, Edmonds, WA**

<b>MRC Members Present</b>	<b>Staff, Presenters, and Others</b>
Susan Tarpley	Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County MRC Lead Staff
Brent Hackney	Alyson Rae, Snohomish County MRC Program Assistant
Lincoln Loehr	
Franchesca Perez	
Mike Ehlebracht	Caroline Gibson, Northwest Straits Commission
Keeley O'Connell	Holly Faulstich, Northwest Straits Commission
Cathy Stanley	Logan Daniels, Snohomish County Parks
Mike Montanari	Sharon Swan, Snohomish County Parks
<b>Absent</b>	Doug Dailer, Snohomish County Park Ranger
Thomas Hoban, Excused	Tom Teigen, Snohomish County Parks
Paul Schlenger, Excused	Stephanie Wright, Snohomish County Council
Simon Geerlofs, Excused	Traci Sanderson, Golder Associates
Bob Hillmann, Excused	David Bain, Sound Action
<b>Summary of Decisions</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The June 18, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary was approved.</li></ul>	
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• July 19, 2014: Puget Sound Speed Crabbing Derby, Everett, 8am – 3pm</li><li>• July 19, 2014: Passport to Port Susan, Stanwood, 1-4pm</li><li>• August 9-10: Stillaguamish Festival of the River, Arlington</li></ul>	

### **Tour of Meadowdale Beach Park**

MRC members and guests attended a tour of Meadowdale Beach Park. Logan Daniels, the Meadowdale Project Manager for the Parks Department, led the tour along with Parks Director, Tom Teigen, Parks Planner, Sharon Swan, and Park Ranger, Doug Dailer who presented on the history and ecology of the park and discussed the upcoming project feasibility study. Snohomish County Councilmember Stephanie Wright was in attendance and applauded the work of the MRC and partners to move this project forward.

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Franchesca Perez opened the MRC meeting with a quorum at 6:04 pm after a tour of Meadowdale Beach Park.

### **Approval of MRC Meeting Summary**

Franchesca Perez made a motion to approve the June 18, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary. The motion was seconded by Lincoln Loehr. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **Project Updates**

- Francesca Perez reviewed a list of subcommittee membership noting that according to the bylaws, each MRC member is expected to participate in at least one subcommittee. Mike Montanari and Keeley O'Connell are considering which subcommittee to join as they aren't currently involved with a subcommittee.
- Kathleen Herrmann reported that the 99% plans for the Nearshore Project were submitted on Monday, July 14. Construction of the project is scheduled to begin in November of 2014. Kathleen also mentioned that informational signs will be developed for the completed restoration site.
- Alyson Rae reported that forage fish monitoring will occur again this year from August 2014-February 2015. A contract with WSU Beach Watchers to assist with forage fish monitoring and winnowing has been routed for signature.
- Susan Tarpley announced that the Oil Spill Subcommittee members are continuing to gather information to determine the status of oil spill response planning in the county. Susan is organizing a meeting with Jason Biermann, Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management, along with interested subcommittee members.
- Kathleen reported that a Crabber Education Subcommittee meeting is being scheduled. Brent Hackney offered to be the lead for this project.
- Alyson reported on the Sound IQ Subcommittee which met on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Allison Sanders, Snohomish County GIS staff, has compiled MRC datasets in ArcMap for review by subcommittee members for inclusion in the Sound IQ database.
- Kathleen reported on projects in the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area. Kathleen and Francesca were interviewed by Faith Haney for the Port Susan video. Additionally, two local farmers, practicing organic fish friendly farming, were interviewed as well. The video will contain footage from a fly-over of Port Susan. Video editing is currently in progress and the goal is to show the video at Focus on Farming.
- The Port Susan Shoreline Incentives workshop was held on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Key stakeholders attended and provided great insight into the most effective shoreline protection incentives for Snohomish County. As a result of voting during the workshop, the top two incentives under consideration for a pilot project are 1) A beach protection district and 2) Working through the conservation district to provide technical assistance. Kathleen will send the Futurewise project reports from the workshop to MRC members.
- Kathleen reported that MRC and Snohomish County staff met with Department of Natural Resources and Sheriff's Department staff to develop an action plan and list of stakeholders for removal of derelict vessels from the Snohomish River Estuary.

## **Announcements**

- Kathleen Herrmann announced that the next MRC meeting will be a crabbing day at Tom Hoban's home. The meeting will need to be rescheduled since recreational crabbing is not open on Wednesdays. MRC members suggested August 14<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> as alternate dates. MRC staff will check with Tom about these dates and send out a doodle poll.
- Lincoln Loehr reported that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Caged Mussel Study report will be released in the next month or two.
- Francesca Perez announced that the Stillaguamish Festival of the River will be held in Arlington on August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. This event is coordinated by the Stillaguamish Tribe and has activities for all ages.
- Francesca Perez reported that educational signage about Pilchuck Creek was installed near the Angel of the Winds Casino exit off I-5.

**The meeting adjourned at 6:41pm to a potluck.**

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting**

## **Meeting Summary**

**September 17, 2014 6:30-8:30PM**

**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201**  
**Admin East Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 6A02**

<b>MRC Members Present</b>	<b>Staff, Presenters, and Others</b>
Thomas Hoban	Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County MRC Lead Staff
Paul Schlenger	Alyson Rae, Snohomish County MRC Program Assistant
Simon Geerlofs	
Susan Tarpley	
Brent Hackney	
Lincoln Loehr	
Franchesca Perez	
Mike Ehlebracht	Casey Rice, NOAA
Cathy Stanley	Sarah Brown, Citizen
<b>Absent</b>	Corrine Brown, Citizen
Bob Hillmann, Excused	Kenzi Kermoade, Everett Community College ORCA Program
Mike Montanari, Excused	Carolyn Henri, Everett Parks
Keeley O'Connell, Excused	
<b>Summary of Decisions</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The July 16, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary was approved.</li></ul>	
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• September 27, 2014: Stillaguamish Shellfish Dinner, Stanwood, WA, 3:30pm</li><li>• October 25, 2014: Sound Living, Everett Community College, 9-4pm</li></ul>	

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Paul Schlenger opened the MRC meeting with a quorum at 6:35 pm.

### **Approval of MRC Meeting Summary**

Lincoln Loehr made a motion to approve the July 16, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary. The motion was seconded by Francesca Perez. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **Recent MRC Accomplishments**

Paul Schlenger presented an overview of the status of current MRC projects.

- MRC Administration: includes the Executive Committee, grant administration, meeting coordination, etc.
- Port Susan
  - Marine Stewardship Area Plan: A continuous opportunity to develop future projects in Port Susan to support the Port Susan MSA Plan.
  - Port Susan Incentives Project: This project is nearing completion with the submission of a report compiled by Futurewise for the Northwest Straits Commission (NWSC) grant.

- Bulkhead Removal Project: For the upcoming NWSC grant, the MRC will look at opportunities to remove shoreline armoring in Port Susan. This project will identify landowners who are willing to advance a bulkhead removal project.
  - Video: The Port Susan video is in the final editing stages and will highlight current conditions and the importance of Port Susan resources. The goal is to show the video at the Focus on Farming Conference on November 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Snohomish County Nearshore Restoration Project: The project is on schedule for construction to begin in winter of 2014. Interpretive signage will be developed for both Howarth Park and Japanese Gulch.
- Meadowdale Park Restoration Feasibility Study: Snohomish County has selected a consulting team to move forward with the feasibility study and conceptual design. Parks Dept. is leading the project, with support from Surface Water Staff and MRC Staff. Sound IQ: Sound IQ is an online GIS program to make MRC data available to the public. The subcommittee and SWM GIS staff are working to gather and process MRC data to publish on Sound IQ.
- Oil Spill Prevention: The subcommittee met on September 17<sup>th</sup> to prepare for a meeting with Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) staff on September 25<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the meeting with DEM is to discuss projects to move forward from the 2011 MRC Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Report.
- Forage Fish Spawning Surveys: Surveys are underway for the 2014-2015 sampling season in partnership with the WSU Extension Beach Watchers. August and September sampling has been completed. Dan Penttila, forage fish biologist, found no evidence of eggs in the August samples, but significant numbers of eggs in the September samples.
- Outreach: MRC members and staff attend events to present or display the MRC booth to educate the public about the committee and marine resource topics in Snohomish County.
- Recreational Crabber Education: The goal of this project is to prevent future crab pot loss in Snohomish County. The subcommittee met with Suzi Wong Swint (Snohomish County staff) to brainstorm ideas for a social marketing plan.
- Derelict Vessels: The Washington State Department of Natural Resources will be notifying landowners of possible trespassing on state land through installation of unpermitted marinas on state aquatic land. Letters will be mailed to landowners in a few weeks. Approximately 100 boats may be illegally moored at these marinas. Derelict Gear: Kathleen will contact Joan regarding the status of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife funds for derelict gear removal in the Port Gardner study area.
- PSP Railroad/sediment study: The Puget Sound Partnership is working to develop a memorandum of agreement between BNSF and Washington Department of Ecology to allow landslide material to remain on the beach to nourish nearshore habitat. Specifically, the PSP is looking for additional funding to complete this MOU. Project is on hold awaiting action from Puget Sound Partnership.
- Local Integrating Organization: Tom Hoban is attending meetings on behalf of the MRC.
- Bull Kelp Monitoring: Mike Montanari will be leading this project. The MRC received the final protocol from the NWSC. Monitoring will begin in 2015 as the tides for the remainder of the year are not low enough to provide significant data.
- Mussel Watch: Project currently on hold. Lincoln Loehr is working to input the most recent sampling data into the Mussel Watch Report.
- Miscellaneous: Joan Drinkwin, Northwest Straits Foundation (NWSF) staff, sent an email requesting MRC representation on a committee to support the recent grant received by the Foundation for Shoreline Armoring Reduction.

## **ORCA Program Presentation**

Mackenzie Kermoade, a student with the Ocean Research College Academy (ORCA) program at Everett Community College, gave a brief presentation on the program. The ORCA program is the only program of its kind in the nation. As a two year program, high school students are accepted during their sophomore year and then spend their junior and senior years in the program, graduating with a high school diploma and an associate's degree upon completion. The ORCA program has ongoing projects that include ocean acidification, heavy metals/bioaccumulation, and otter research.

## **Snohomish Estuary NOAA Monitoring Overview**

Casey Rice PhD, biologist with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries, presented *Research and Monitoring in the Snohomish Estuary*. Casey discussed the different restoration projects in various stages in the Snohomish Estuary and the importance of monitoring throughout these projects. NOAA Fisheries and partners, including Snohomish County and Tulalip Tribes, have conducted system-wide fish sampling throughout the Snohomish River Estuary for the past few years, primarily using beach seining as the preferred sample method. Data show that the fish are not uniformly distributed throughout the estuary. Initial analysis shows strong spatial and seasonal structures in fish abundance. For example, the Qwuloolt restoration project site is isolated from the rest of the estuary and the sampling there demonstrates this. A dike breach is planned in late 2015. Fish inside the Qwuloolt system are very similar throughout the year compared to the composition of fish sampled in other parts of the estuary. Post restoration monitoring will be important to understand how this project impacts the larger estuary.

## **Port Susan Incentives Report**

Kathleen Herrmann reported that the Port Susan Incentives Workshop was held on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014. Four incentives were selected by workshop participants as the top incentives for implementation in Snohomish County: establishing a beach management district, offering cost share awards to landowners, adding a shoreline component to the Conservation District's program, and creating a shoreline education and technical assistance program. Futurewise drafted a report summarizing these four incentives for potential pilot projects in Snohomish County. The Draft Report was submitted to the NWSC on September 12, 2014. Kathleen suggested that additional report edits be made with a new version created to address some ideas that have been discussed about how to create a shoreline education and technical assistance program. Members discussed creating a technical support program for shoreline landowners as part of the Snohomish County Surface Water Management Department. Kathleen asked for input from MRC members on how to add this idea to the report. One suggestion included adding information to the technical assistance section (section 4) and changing the section's title. MRC members agreed the new idea should be addressed in the report. Kathleen and Paul will work to draft a new version of the report.

## **NWSC Travel Authorization Forms**

Alyson Rae prepared Travel Authorization forms for the MRC Conference on December 5-6, 2014. MRC members were asked to sign and return the forms in order to be reimbursed for conference travel expenses.

## **Announcements**

- Kathleen announced that Sound Living will be held on October 25<sup>th</sup> at Everett Community College. Bob Hillmann, Franchesca Perez, Lincoln Loehr, and Alyson Rae volunteered to attend and staff the MRC display.

- Kathleen initiated a brief discussion on the fishing license prosecution issue in Snohomish County from a story reported on by King 5 News. Prior to the meeting, Brent Hackney reported that the State Legislature decriminalized wildlife violations last year turning most violations into civil infractions. Brent summarized the action by saying “The individual in violation will still receive the monetary penalty but they will no longer face criminal charges for the violation.” MRC members agreed with Brent’s explanation of the King 5 story.
- Kathleen and Paul attended an Ocean Acidification (OA) Forum in Friday Harbor on September 10<sup>th</sup> Hosted by the San Juan County MRC. Speakers included leading scientists studying OA, local shellfish growers, and local elected officials.
- Kathleen announced that she was asked by Terrie Klinger, University of Washington professor, to give a tour of Port Susan to new UW School of Marine and Environmental Affairs students on October 17<sup>th</sup>. Lincoln Loehr, Tom Hoban, and Franchesca Perez are interested in attending. Franchesca will check on boat availability for that day.
- Franchesca announced an Open House will be held at the Stillaguamish Tribe’s new Natural Resources building. Franchesca will forward invitations to interested MRC members.
- Susan suggested that creating an MRC business card to give out when attending events and meetings on behalf of the MRC would be helpful. Brent has already created a template that he will send to MRC staff. MRC staff will edit the template and print business cards.
- Brent announced he will be ordering MRC logo gear. MRC members interested in purchasing gear should email Brent by Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.**

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting**

## **Meeting Summary**

**October 15, 2014 6:30-8:30PM**

**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201**  
**Admin East Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 6A02**

<b>MRC Members Present</b>	<b>Staff, Presenters, and Others</b>
Thomas Hoban	Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County MRC Lead Staff
Paul Schlenger	Alyson Rae, Snohomish County MRC Program Assistant
Simon Geerlofs	
Susan Tarpley	
Brent Hackney	
Lincoln Loehr	
Franchesca Perez	
Mike Ehlebracht	Melissa Miner, UC Santa Cruz (via phone)
Cathy Stanley	
Bob Hillmann	
Keeley O'Connell	
<b>Absent</b>	
None	
<b>Summary of Decisions</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The September 17, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary was approved.</li></ul>	
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>October 25, 2014: Sound Living, Everett Community College, 9am-4pm</li><li>November 6, 2014: NOAA Nite, Mukilteo, 4:30pm-8:30pm</li><li>November 20, 2014: Focus on Farming Conference, Evergreen State Fairgrounds</li></ul>	

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Paul Schlenger opened the MRC meeting with a quorum at 6:34 pm.

### **Approval of MRC Meeting Summary**

Tom Hoban made a motion to approve the September 17, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary. The motion was seconded by Franchesca Perez. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **Port Susan Incentives Report Discussion**

Kathleen Herrmann and Paul Schlenger revised the Port Susan Incentives Report based on suggestions from MRC members at the September MRC meeting. Kathleen wrote a chapter on the Snohomish County Marine Resources Program and added more detail to the summary to allow for a range of MRC project opportunities in the future. Kathleen will send the report to stakeholders who participated in the Port Susan Incentives workshop as well as Surface Water Management staff.

### **NWSC Update and MRC Annual Conference**

Kathleen Herrmann announced that MRC members will need to register for the MRC conference online. There is no cost to attend the conference but a charge will be added for additional guests. Kathleen asked if MRC members wanted to update the display for the conference. MRC

members agreed they would like to use the same display as last year. Ginny Broadhurst, Northwest Straits Commission, has confirmed the MRC can use the Port Susan video for the MRC presentation portion of the conference. MRC members discussed if anyone would still want to give a talk in addition to the video. Brent suggested Rodney Rochon, Snohomish County Sheriff's Department, give a presentation on behalf of the MRC about derelict vessel removal in the Snohomish River estuary. Brent will contact Caroline Gibson, Northwest Straits Commission, and Rodney about this idea. Another option MRC members discussed is to show the Ghost Pots of Puget Sound video. As a third alternative, Susan Tarpley offered to give a presentation on derelict gear and/or derelict vessels.

Paul Schlenger initiated a discussion about donation of items for the silent auction at the MRC Conference. Francesca Perez offered to coordinate the MRC donation basket this year. Brent Hackney will call Don Velasquez (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife) about a derelict crab pot for the basket. A few MRC members will donate individual items. Paul suggested that MRC members could contact Harbor Marine and/or West Marine about donating items as well.

### **Sea Star Wasting Disease Presentation**

Melissa Miner, University of California, Santa Cruz, presented information via teleconference about sea star wasting disease and efforts to understand the cause and pattern of spreading. Melissa presented an overview of sea star wasting syndrome and displayed maps of where the disease has been observed, showing widespread observations all along the west coast from Southeast Alaska to San Diego, California. So far, studies have suggested that the disease is likely caused by multiple factors including viral, bacterial, and/or environmental causes. The disease has been observed in many species but some populations have been impacted more than others including sunflower stars and ochre stars. Recently, scientists have observed potentially encouraging signs of arm regrowth/healing in some stars as well as an increase in juveniles observed at a number of locations. Citizen scientists can be involved with sea star wasting syndrome monitoring using an online observation log to report where and when the disease was observed. For more information please refer to:

<http://www.eeb.ucsc.edu/pacificrockyintertidal/data-products/sea-star-wasting/>

### **ESRP Nearshore Monitoring Grant Support Letter**

Frank Leonetti (SWM) and Kathleen Herrmann are working with University of Washington scientists to submit an Estuary and Salmon Restoration program (ESRP) Learning Grant for monitoring funds for the Nearshore Beach Restoration Project. Kathleen drafted a letter to express the MRC's support for the monitoring project to support the goals of the Nearshore Beach Restoration Project per Paul's request. MRC members read the letter and no changes were noted. MRC members discussed holding meetings with County Councilmembers to inform them of the letter and other current MRC efforts.

**Motion to approve the ESRP Nearshore Monitoring Grant Support letter as written: Lincoln Loehr. The motion was seconded by Brent Hackney. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

### **MRC Member Changes/Recruitment**

Kathleen reported that MRC member Mike Montanari resigned due to personal circumstances. MRC staff will begin recruiting for up to two new MRC members. Specifically, the MRC will be looking for an economic representative and a member from County Council District 4. MRC members brainstormed ideas for potential new members or organizational representatives.

## **MRC Project Updates**

- Bob Hillmann reported that the Nearshore Beach Restoration Project construction is targeted for January 2015. Snohomish County is working to revise the bid package to be in Washington Department of Transportation (WDOT) standard road format. Snohomish County is awaiting the permit from the US Army Corp of Engineers. Interpretive signage design and development will be sent out to a contractor for additional capacity.
- Alyson Rae reported that Dan Penttila, forage fish biologist, found no forage fish eggs in the August sediment samples but smelt eggs were found at multiple sites in both September and October samples. Forage fish spawning surveys will continue monthly through construction of the Nearshore Beach Restoration Project.
- Lincoln Loehr reported that WDFW released the Caged Mussel Study report.
- Brent Hackney reported that the Recreation Crabber Education Subcommittee drafted a social marketing plan for a recreational crabber education project. The subcommittee is planning to hold a recreational crabber focus group before the end of 2014. Information gathered from this focus group will help inform a social marketing plan to reduce pot loss in Snohomish County.
- Susan Tarpley reported that the Oil Spill Subcommittee members met with Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management staff on September 25. Meeting participants will continue to move forward with the project involving a tabletop exercise and vessel of opportunity program.
- Alyson announced that MRC staff and members worked with the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to support removal of seven derelict vessels in the Steamboat Slough in late September 2014. This is a partnership between Snohomish County Public Works, the MRC, Snohomish County Sheriff's Department and DNR to provide almost \$400,000 in state funds to Snohomish County to help address a pollution and habitat concern that has affected the estuary for a number of years.
- Brent reported that derelict gear removal will occur this winter. The MRC is working with the Northwest Straits Foundation and DNR to determine which agency will remove gear in the Port Gardner Study area. Both Brent and Francesca left messages with DNR to clarify the removal plan. Lincoln suggested contacting Ashley Ahern about covering this story when removal is scheduled.

## **Announcements**

- Alyson Rae announced that MRC staff and members will host a tour of Port Susan for University of Washington graduate students on October 17<sup>th</sup>. The tour will include stops at the Port Susan Bay Preserve, Kayak Point, and Klesick Family Farms.
- Alyson announced that Sound Living will be held on October 25<sup>th</sup>. MRC members and staff will attend and display the MRC booth. MRC members are able to register until October 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Alyson announced that the MRC's Port Susan video will be shown at the November 20<sup>th</sup> Focus on Farming Conference. The video is scheduled to be shown after Snohomish County Executive John Lovick opens the event.
- Alyson announced the MRC is invited to participate in NOAA Nite on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Lincoln Loehr offered to attend on behalf of the MRC.
- Keeley O'Connell announced a planting event will be held at Edmonds Marsh on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:36pm.**

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting**

## **Meeting Summary**

**November 19, 2014 6:30-8:30PM**

**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201**  
**Admin East Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 6A02**

<b>MRC Members Present</b> Thomas Hoban Paul Schlenger Susan Tarpley Brent Hackney Lincoln Loehr Franchesca Perez Mike Ehlebracht Bob Hillmann Keeley O'Connell	<b>Staff, Presenters, and Others</b> Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County MRC Lead Staff Alyson Rae, Snohomish County MRC Program Assistant  Abby Hook, Hook Knauer, LLP David Bain, Citizen
<b>Absent</b> Cathy Stanley, Excused Simon Geerlofs, Excused	

  

<b>Summary of Decisions</b>	
• The October 15, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary was approved.	

  

<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
• November 20, 2014: Focus on Farming Conference, Evergreen State Fairgrounds	
• December 5-6, 2014: MRC Conference, Port Townsend	

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Paul Schlenger opened the MRC meeting with a quorum at 6:34 pm.

### **Approval of MRC Meeting Summary**

Tom Hoban made a motion to approve the October 15, 2014 MRC Meeting Summary. The motion was seconded by Mike Ehlebracht. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **Port Susan CAP Status Report**

Abby Hook, project consultant with Hook Knauer, LLP, shared that she is completing a status report for the Port Susan Conservation Action Plan (CAP). Abby distributed the draft project matrix she created to show progress on the different strategies and projects identified in the Port Susan CAP. To complete this report, Abby will call project partners to identify projects that have been completed or are planned. The finalized progress report will be a 3-4 page report that includes narrative on successful projects and will be distributed to project partners. The goal of this document is to help the MRC and project partners identify what strategies still need to be addressed and which strategies should be prioritized. Abby asked that MRC members send feedback on the draft matrix by December 5<sup>th</sup>. Kathleen Herrmann will forward the document to MRC members electronically to provide feedback to Abby. The document will then be sent to the County Graphics Department to develop into a Glossy Report Card.

## **Nearshore Project Update**

Bob Hillmann announced that the Nearshore Beach Restoration Project has been delayed and the new timeline is for construction to begin at Howarth Park in September 2015 with beach nourishment to begin as early as August 2015. The project team is working on outreach materials to notify neighborhoods and residents of the new project timeline.

Kathleen initiated a brief discussion about project signage needs. MRC members discussed researching how well signs hold up at other high use parks. Tom Hoban mentioned that the signs at Cornet Bay were well done. Tom will contact the Northwest Straits Foundation for information on who constructed the signs. Franchesca Perez suggested talking with Penway, a printer in Arlington who has created metal signs for the Stillaguamish Tribe. An education and outreach grant to provide funding to key restoration projects in Puget Sound has recently been made available through the Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Grant Program. Each project listed is guaranteed approximately \$15,000. This funding could be added to the signage budget. Kathleen will draft a grant proposal and email Tom and Paul for review.

## **Derelict Crab Pot Removal Discussion**

The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has funding to complete the Port Gardner Grab Pot Removal in January 2015. This is being organized by Joan Drinkwin, Northwest Straits Foundation (NWSF). Since DNR is doing the removal this year or in early 2015, the MRC needs to ensure that the report completed by Natural Resources Consultants is in line with past reports. Brent will call Joan to discuss details of the removal and report. Since DNR is completing the removal this year, Kathleen Herrmann and Susan Tarpley met with Surface Water Management Director, Debbie Terwilleger, to discuss allowing MRC funds allocated to derelict crab pot removal in 2014 to be used in 2015.

The MRC will hold a subcommittee meeting in January to discuss the best use of these funds and the direction of derelict gear removal over the next several years. MRC members suggested that Kathleen set a deadline for when a decision needs to be made in 2015 to ensure crab pot removal can be completed by year end. A few questions to address during the January discussion:

- Does high rot cord use mean pot removal isn't necessary?
- Should the MRC consider adding a study area in addition to the Port Gardner Study Area?
- Should the MRC consider adding funds to the existing DNR funds to increase the current Port Gardner Study Area?
- Should the MRC consider removal in Port Susan since it is one of the strategies identified in the Port Susan CAP? What is the current status of pot removal in Port Susan?

## **Planning for 2015**

Kathleen suggested that a MRC planning retreat be held in January or February to discuss a 2015 workplan. This will be a longer MRC meeting and dinner will be provided. MRC members voted to hold this meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 at 3pm. The meeting location to be decided based on availability.

## **NWSC Update and MRC Annual Conference**

The MRC Conference will be held on December 5-6, 2014. Kathleen asked for a volunteer to present the Port Susan video during the Saturday morning session.

**Action: Lincoln made a motion for Simon Geerlofs to present the video. The motion was seconded by Keeley O'Connell. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

## **Announcements**

- Kathleen announced that Focus on Farming will be held on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The MRC's Port Susan Stewardship video will be shown after lunch.
- Kathleen announced that Paul Schlenger will host the MRC Holiday Party on December 17<sup>th</sup> at his home in Montlake Terrace
- Alyson updated the MRC on the NWSF Crab Pot Escapement Study being conducted at the NOAA Mukilteo Lab. Alyson joined Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) staff to collect Dungeness crab for the study on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The goal of the study is to observe escapement rates for different styles of recreational crab pots.
- Alyson reported that surf smelt eggs have been found in sediment samples each month and it is expected that sand lance eggs will be found starting in December samples. Forage fish spawning surveys will continue monthly through February.
- Lincoln announced that he assisted with sorting mussels for a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife study in Port Gamble.
- Lincoln reported that he met someone who might be interested in becoming a MRC member at the November 6<sup>th</sup> NOAA Nite in Mukilteo.
- Franchesca reported that the Stillaguamish Tribe has funds to collect and analyze mussels at the Port Susan mussel watch sites this winter.
- Keeley presented the Coastal Blue Carbon study as an example of international significance at the Restore America's Estuaries Conference. This study was one of four featured case studies from North America.
- Kathleen announced that the MRC is co-sponsoring a Starlight Beach Walk on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at Edmonds Olympic Beach from 7:30-9pm.
- Kathleen announced that MRC staff are working with Suzi Wong Swint (Snohomish County staff) to organize a focus group with WDFW Recreational Crabber Advisory Committee members on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. The results of this focus group will help inform the recreational crabber education social marketing project.
- Susan reported that Oil Spill Subcommittee members met with Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management staff and Washington Department of Ecology staff in the past few weeks. Subcommittee members will meet on December 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss projects to move forward and will present these at the MRC retreat in January.
- Alyson reported that City of Bellingham GIS staff are currently uploading MRC data layers to Sound IQ. The Snohomish MRC page should be live in a few weeks.
- Kathleen reported that Heather Trim, Futurewise, completed a new draft of the Port Susan Incentives Report. The report will be finalized in the next few weeks.
- Kathleen announced that Mike will represent the MRC at the Meadowdale Restoration Feasibility Study stakeholder meeting and at the community meeting.

**Paul Schlenger adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.**