

# Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting Meeting Summary

**March 15, 2017 6:30-8:30PM**  
**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201**  
**Admin East Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor**

<p><b>MRC Members Present</b>          Franchesca Perez (via phone)          Sarah Brown          Traci Sanderson          Deborah Hopkins          Paul Clampitt          Mike Ehlebracht          Cathy Stanley          Bob Hillmann          Craig Wollam</p> <p><b>Absent</b>          Tom Doerge (excused)          Laura Gurley (excused)          Susan Tarpley (excused)</p>	<p><b>Staff, Presenters, and Others</b>          Kathleen Pozarycki, Snohomish County MRC Lead Staff          Elisa Dawson, Snohomish County MRC Planner</p> <p>Alessandra Durham, Snohomish County Executive’s Office          Lincoln Loehr, Citizen          David Bain, Citizen</p>
<p><b>Summary of Decisions</b></p> <p>The MRC approved the February 16, 2017 MRC Meeting Summary.</p>	
<p><b>Upcoming Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forage Fish Monitoring scheduled for April 17, 2017</li> <li>• March 18, 2017 Oiled Wildlife Hazwoper training in Everett</li> </ul>	

**Welcome and Introductions**

Sarah Brown stepped in as Chair while Franchesca Perez called into the meeting remotely. Sarah opened the Marine Resources Committee (MRC) meeting with a quorum at 6:35pm. Sarah asked the meeting participants to go around the room and introduce themselves. Sarah introduced Alessandra Durham from the Snohomish County Executive’s office.

**Approval of MRC Meeting Summary**

Mike Ehlebracht made a motion to approve the February 16, 2017 MRC Meeting Summary. Craig Wollam seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Executive Liaison to Snohomish County Boards and Commissions**

Alessandra Durham introduced herself as the Boards and Commissions Liaison to the Snohomish County Executive’s Office. Alessandra explained that there are 42 Boards and Commissions in Snohomish County and she serves as the communication channel between these groups and Executive Dave Somers. The Executive’s office provides support to boards and commissions, and the Executive’s office has determined that boards and commissions members must begin using a county provided email instead of their personal email accounts by June 1, 2017.

Alessandra noted that she would be helping transition boards and commissions members into this new system. . By using a county email, members of the boards and commissions will not have their personal email accounts and computers vulnerable to Public Records Act requests. Kathleen requested further assistance during the transition from Alessandra on this topic.

The MRC mentioned their August 31, 2016 letter to Executive Somers regarding the Puget Sound Initiative to Alessandra. The MRCs letter focuses on encouraging the County to emphasize the following areas the MRC has prioritized, including oil spill preparedness, stormwater runoff, and nearshore habitat protection and restoration and direct additional resources to these priorities.

### **MRC Grant for 2016/2017**

Kathleen reported to the MRC that the Northwest Straits Commission has issued their Request for Proposals for MRC grants. The MRC will present this year's idea to the Northwest Straits Commission on April 28 at Padilla Bay. The MRC discussed the following three projects with the intention to choose one to propose for the MRC grant.

1. Ocean Literacy Education and Outreach: Snohomish MRC sponsors the showing of a series of ocean issue documentaries for the public. The project would promote ocean literacy and work with teachers to have their students attend for credit, and/or show movies in schools, and work with partners who may have school connections to help handle logistics.
2. Voluntary No-Anchor Zone at Kayak Point: Snohomish MRC would work to create a Voluntary No-Anchor Zone marked by buoys on the perimeter of the eelgrass bed near Kayak Point using the Port Townsend eelgrass protection zone project as a case study to inform this project. MRC members discussed this idea and determined that the use of Kayak Point was not likely high enough to warrant this project. Additionally, the buoys could impact forage habitat for whales and also interfere with native fishing gear placement.
3. Economic Valuation of Meadowdale Park: Snohomish County Surface Water Management is doing a small contract with the non-profit, Earth Economics for ecosystem services valuation (ESV) of several Lower Skykomish sub-basins. They are also crafting a benefit cost analysis (BCA) framework that incorporated ESV and doing a case study BCA of two project alternatives in that location. The MRC could use the grant funds to add a Meadowdale ESV with Earth Economics or another contractor. It was also mentioned that funding for this project could come from the on-call consultant funding included in the MRC budget. There was discussion around the use of on-call funds to fund a parks and recreation department project, ultimately most of the group agreed to fund this project in partnership with Parks. .

Paul Clampitt asked if the on-call consultant funds could be used to do additional derelict boat removal. Kathleen responded that MRC Executive Committee decided to use additional MRC funds to support derelict boat removal in addition to the LIO grant so no further money is needed at this time. The MRC discussed the Voluntary No-Anchor Zone project. Paul thought that this would be a good project because it is replicating a successful project in Port Townsend. Franchesca shared that there is a lot of boat traffic at Kayak Point. Cathy thought that there might be some issues with establishing a no-anchor zone at Kayak Point. For example, this could create conflicts with tribal harvest or gear removal. Furthermore, Cathy pointed out that the permitting for the buoys may be more in-depth than the MRC would want to take on in a one-year project. The MRC agreed to take this project off the table for now.

The MRC discussed the Ocean Literacy project next. Franchesca suggested pairing the movie with a panel question and answer with professionals. Sarah shared that bringing the movies to the schools would be efficient and convenient for the students. Mike inquired to how much this project would cost. Kathleen said that while the grant has not been priced out yet, it could cost between a few

hundred to several thousand to get the rights to show a movie. The MRC would have to brainstorm a list of movies and cost out the project. The MRC agreed that this project would be a good candidate for the grant.

Kathleen discussed the idea of an economic study at Meadowdale. Kathleen reported that this study would be beneficial to the Meadowdale culvert replacement project. A BCA with an ESV could enable the MRC to continue to make a strong argument for the funding needed to replace the culvert at Meadowdale. This type of study would likely be required before obtaining further grant funds. Bob asked if Snohomish County Parks Department could do the BCA and ESV work. Kathleen responded that while Parks could do the work, since these studies are already being contracted it would be most efficient to add onto this work. The MRC agreed that this would be a good project for the MRC to contract.

Kathleen reported that one option would be to use MRC on-call consulting funds to pay for the Meadowdale study, and then use the MRC Grant funds for the Ocean Literacy Project. The contracting funds are separate from the grant and are already budgeted in the MRC budget for 2017. The MRC agreed to have Kathleen check to see if the MRC contracting funds could be used for the Meadowdale Study, and move forward on the documentaries project for the MRC grant. The MRC will need to present their idea for the MRC grant to the Northwest Straits Commission on April 28 at Padilla Bay.

### **Celebration of Lincoln Loehr's Contribution**

Kathleen shared a PowerPoint presentation with photos of Lincoln Loehr's work on the MRC. Over the course of three terms, Lincoln donated over 1,000 hours of his time to the mission of the MRC. The Snohomish MRC thanked Lincoln for his service and presented Lincoln with a wooden plaque and had a small celebration.

### **Storm Surge Monitoring Project Planning and MyCoast App**

Kathleen reported to the MRC that there have been over 25 reports submitted using the MyCoast app. While we are getting good data, in order to make the project more likely to be funded next year, there needs to be more people using the app, as the cost per year is approximately \$10,000. The MRC discussed adding a new form to the app for the public to gather basic information easily and quickly. The idea that came out of the MRC Retreat would be to conduct photo monitoring to measure shoreline change over time. People would use specific landmarks to set up photo monitoring sites and ask citizen scientists to take specific photographs from those designated points. Ideas included taking photographs of beaches as well as areas where you can see kelp beds. Taking these simple photos would appeal to many people and promote interaction with their marine environment. There was discussion around the idea of winning digital awards through the app, for example, if one goes to all photo locations they get a badge of some type. The MRC agreed to put together a team to figure out what the best photo locations would be for the app. Traci, Paul, Deborah and Mike agreed to serve on this team. This form could be called "Document your Discovery" or "Photo Monitoring" of your local beach. Once the MRC has chosen locations and created the app form, a press release and outreach push will be made to get people involved in gathering the data. Alessandra Durham offered to help get the word out once the app is completed and ready to go.

### **Announcements**

- Paul Clampitt and Kathleen Pozarycki attended the 2017 Northwest Straits Commission Retreat on February 23 and 24.
- Paul reported that the LIO did not meet in February and will not be meeting in March 2017. The next LIO meeting will be April 20th. A LIO subcommittee is reviewing the process for updating the NTAs as well as the structure of the LIO. The LIO expects a report from the subcommittee at the April 20th meeting.

- MRC members Tom Doerge and Craig Wollam and MRC Staff Elisa Dawson attended March 9<sup>th</sup> Kayak Point Regional Park Public Meeting to learn about the park's Master Plan. During the meeting, Snohomish County Parks and Landscape Architects from J.A. Brennan discussed options for soft-shore armoring of the beachfront to protect the park from sea-level rise, adjustments to the boat ramp, taking out some of the roadway on the beach from area, and raising some of the built environment infrastructure. The public did a dot exercise on types of amenities they would like to see at the park, both in the beach area and in the forested area above. Facilitators will incorporate the feedback they received from this meeting and are creating design options which will be presented to the public at another public meeting. Craig Wollman brought up the fact that none of the ideas showed the reintroduction of the historic lagoon at the site. Kathleen mentioned this had been taken off the table previously because the location of the lagoon is where infrastructure for the roadway is, however she would bring it back up with Parks staff in case there is still an opportunity for this type of restoration.
- There will be an Oiled Wildlife Hazwoper training in Everett March 18, 2017.
- The Northwest Straits is hosting a Kelp Workshop on April 15, 2017. Traci will be attending to represent the Snohomish MRC.
- The MRC grant presentation to the Northwest Straits Commission is April 28 at Padilla Bay.
- Forage fish monitoring will be April 17<sup>th</sup>. Meet at Howarth Park at 2PM.
- The MRC Annual Presentation to Snohomish County Council is scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers.

**Running List of MRC Actions:**

- MRC members volunteered to help with forage fish monitoring at Picnic Point, Meadowdale and Howarth Park. Elisa will coordinate with volunteers on logistics for monitoring.
- Elisa will continue to follow up on the placement of the installation of the interpretive signs at Edgewater Beach Park with the Port of Everett and at Howarth Park.
- Kathleen will send Paul Clampitt's contact information to Alessandra Durham.
- Kathleen will check to see if MRC contracting funds can be used for the Meadowdale BCA and ESV study.

**The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.**