

# Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

## Meeting Summary

Wednesday, January 18, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Snohomish County East Administration Building  
Public Meeting Room 1, West  
3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201

<p><b>MRC Members Present</b> Dawn Lawrence, Chair Kent Scudder, Vice Chair Chrys Bertolotto Mary Cunningham Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Alternate Charles LaNasa Alan Mearns Jen Sevigny Karen Stewart Sally van Niel Daryl Williams, NW Straits Representative</p> <p><b>MRC Members Absent</b> Heather McCartney-Excused Chet Motekaitis- Excused</p>	<p><b>Staff, Presenters and Others</b> Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM Ed Anderson, Citizen Marc Daily, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources Lisa Kaufman, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources Stan Lundgaard, Citizen Linda Lyshall, Puget Sound Action Team Tom Murphy, Edmonds Community College Kerrie Murphy, Edmonds Community College</p>
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### Summary of Decisions

- MRC Elections-
  - Dawn Lawrence elected as MRC Chair
  - Kent Scudder elected as MRC Vice Chair and Snohomish MRC Representative to the Northwest Straits Commission
  - Kirby Johnson and Stef Frenzl elected as Snohomish MRC Alternate Representatives to the Northwest Straits Commission

### Follow-Up Items

MRC Executive Committee (Chair, Vice Chair and Staff)- discuss NWSC 2006 grant funding

MRC Sub-Committee Chairs -

- Schedule and hold Sub-committee meetings before the Feb 15, 2006 MRC meeting.
- Determine subcommittee chairs.

MRC Staff- Distribute revised MRC member contact sheet to all MRC members

### Upcoming Events

- Next MRC meeting: Wednesday, February 15, 2006, Everett, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- NWSC Meeting- Friday, February 24, 2005, Sequim, 10:00a.m.-3:00p.m.
- WSU Beach Watcher Training- March 13-May 4, 2006, Marysville

## **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC) January 18, 2006**

### **Introductions, Agenda and Meeting Summaries**

Dawn convened the meeting at 6:45 p.m. No changes were made to the Agenda. The 10/19/05 and 11/16/05 meeting summaries were approved as written.

### **Announcements**

- Stef handed out tide Graph calendars and posters to MRC members on behalf of Snohomish County.
- San Juan Marine Resource Committee Invitation: 10 year anniversary of the San Juan MRC, Saturday, January 28, 2006: 1:00-4:00pm. Friday Harbor Middle School Commons, 85 Blair St, Friday Harbor, San Juan Island. Invited guest speakers: Gov Chris Gregoire, Senator Maria Cantwell, Tom Cowan, Joe Gaydos, Kevin Ranker, Opening Ceremony: Tulalip Tribes First Salmon Ceremonial Drummers.
- Stef working to obtain a full-time intern, possibly an Individual Placement position through WCC, but also have other options available. He's also working on part-time intern options.
- Stef attended oil spill awareness conference. He took 50 pages of notes, and several opportunities for the MRC to be involved. Stef will do data dump with WQ Subcommittee and then present to the MRC at an upcoming MRC meeting.
- Stef went to 2-day NWSC retreat and took many notes. He would like to prepare more for a full presentation at February's MRC meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Discussion items included Global Warming, Northwest Straits Foundation, 2006 NWSC Budget, Strategic Planning, and MRC regional project coordination (Beach Watchers, Shore Stewards, etc)
- Stef met with Tom Murphy at Edmonds Community College to discuss potential partnerships with the juvenile Dungeness Crab Preferred Habitat Surveys, BEACH Program, and other projects. Tom's summer program will require students to commit 8 hours per day for 4 days a week throughout the summer. Tom is working with a number of groups in addition to the MRC, but is very interested in taking on at least one or a few MRC projects.
- WSU Beach Watchers Beach Watcher training in Jennings Park, Marysville: March 13 – May 4, 9 – 3:30 PM, Mondays and Thursdays. Tell your friends!
- State Legislature is in session- septic system legislation on table again that would require local governments to comply to fecal coliform standards within 5 years in areas with poor water quality.
- Climate Change Publication by PSAT- Stef will bring copies of the report at February 15th MRC meeting. Can download on internet at PSAT website
- Puget Sound Waterfront Landowner workshops. Linda, Chrys and Stef have been working with a variety of partners to present two workshops for landowners living on bluff edges. Workshop dates will be March 8<sup>th</sup> and March 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Website- Stef finally trained and certified to change the MRC website. Start working on changes in February.
- Alan Mearns been working on response letter to Council about endocrine disruptors.
- Daryl Williams announced that the Governor's Puget Sound Initiative is now active.

**Public Comment-** no public comment

### **Action Items**

- 1) Elect 2006 MRC officers (Chair)
  - o Dawn Lawrence elected as MRC Chair
  - o Kent Scudder elected as MRC Vice Chair and Snohomish MRC Representative to the Northwest Straits Commission
  - o Kirby Johnson and Stef Frenzl as Snohomish MRC Alternate Representatives to the Northwest Straits Commission

## **Discussion Items**

### **1) MRC Member Appointments**

MRC Members up for Reappointment: Mary Cunningham, Chet Motekaitis, Kent Scudder, Kirby Johnson, Sally van Niel, Daryl Williams

MRC staff hasn't heard back from the Executive's office about how to proceed for each appointee. Staff will contact those MRC members up for reappointment to review background information for our application forms, and will submit applications through the County approval process as soon as possible.

Dawn discussed her expectations for communication among MRC members and Subcommittees. Dawn requested that emails serve as the primary method for communication, and all MRC members keep an email account active. Dawn wants to interface with all subcommittees, and expects each MRC member to participate actively in at least one Subcommittee. If any member needs additional help, Dawn asked that they contact MRC Staff. Staff will carbon copy all MRC members about dates and times of all subcommittee meetings. Staff will also send out an email to MRC Partners and Interests requesting their interest in receiving MRC subcommittee agendas, and will track those interested parties.

## **Subcommittee Reports**

### 1) Dungeness Crab Subcommittee Report (Kent Scudder)

- NWSC still hasn't heard about the NOAA Marine Debris Program grant
- Derelict Gear removal- the Committee reviewed 2004 and 2005 data, and derelict gear appears to have less impact over time. Derelict Gear Surveys outside of Mukilteo will commence in February.
- The Stillaguamish Tribe is developing a research project to determine crab mortality rates over the course of a year. More information will be coming soon.

### 2) Nearshore Subcommittee Update (Karen Stewart)

- Candidate sites analysis is mostly complete. Staff will put in final hours to complete this year.
- Pocket Estuary mapping- this work is more extensive than originally thought, and will require geologic expertise. The funding we allocated for this project will be moved to another project
- Creosote log Removal- Surveys will continue along mission beach. Jetty Island is a high accretion area and will be a priority site for creosote log removal.
- Staff is working to develop the RFP for consultants for eelgrass mapping
- Alan is looking for mussel collection sites near Edmonds for his research. He wants 3 or 4 sites. Please see him if you have any ideas.

### 3) Water Quality Subcommittee Update (Daryl Williams)

- The WQ Subcommittee started a goals and objectives flow chart
- Staff attended the oil spill course and will have recommendations for how the committee can move forward
- We're looking for partners to continue to implement the BEACH Program

### **Northwest Straits Commission Retreat Report (Staff)**

NWSC Retreat- Stef attended the NWSC Retreat on Jan 17 and 18, and would like to put together something more definitive and come back to the MRC in February for a more in-depth report.

NWSC Meeting- The NWSC approved a general outline of the NWSC 2006 work plan and budget. In general, an additional amount of approximately \$100,000 will be given directly to our MRC, plus funding for regional projects and training (still unknown how things will break out). When we get figures, I'd like to talk with Chair and Vice Chair to discuss ways in which we move forward with selecting funds for projects.

Staff requested each Subcommittee to continue working on efforts of last meetings, in addition to selecting potential projects to augment and/or contribute to partners.

### **Training: Washington Dept. of Natural Resources Habitat Conservation Plan (Marc Daily, Aquatics Resources Program, WDNR)**

As steward of the 2.4 million acres of state-owned aquatic lands, Washington's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages the lands under navigable marine and fresh waters, and many beaches. These mostly-submerged lands provide habitat for many species. It is DNR's responsibility to ensure their protection while also providing for navigation, commerce, and public use.

DNR is undertaking a formal review of the agency's management of state-owned aquatic lands to determine how those practices may affect certain aquatic species threatened or endangered with extinction. DNR has established an aquatics Endangered Species Act team to carry out this review. The review will help DNR provide a more consistent and comprehensive approach to protecting habitat across the aquatic landscape statewide, while assuring compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Enacted into U.S. law in 1973, the Endangered Species Act is intended to prevent the loss of plant and animal species and their habitats. Since 1973, at least 15 species nationwide have been removed from the list due to the recovery of those species through actions guided by ESA protections.

The first phase of DNR's review is to gather information on how DNR's management activities may affect species of interest and their habitats. In subsequent phases, DNR will draft a long-term plan that will help the agency reduce the risk of species extinction and contribute to their recovery. DNR is contracting with Battele and Entrix Environmental Consultants to look at species, effects, etc. 900 species have been identified. These consultants have prioritized these species down to 88, and then down to 20. This plan is expected to be complete in 2009. Interested members of the public and scientific community will be asked for input, and to provide a full review of the proposed plan. The plan will be finalized and implemented after DNR considers the results of this review.

## **DNR's ESA project goal**

DNR's Aquatic ESA Team will create a long-term, workable plan to ensure that DNR's management of state-owned aquatic lands is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. DNR must comply with Section 7 of the ESA, and as a result must obtain an incidental take permit for takings.

## **Information gathering phase**

DNR's information gathering phase includes several critical tasks, to:

- Define the project - set timelines
- Identify relevant species for inclusion in the plan
- Define potential effects of DNR management activities
- Identify and evaluate various ESA compliance options
- Plan and implement public participation strategies
- Identify interested parties and seek their input

## **Species inclusion criteria**

The ESA team scientists have looked at the species present on Washington's state-owned aquatic lands to determine which species should be included in the analysis. Criteria were developed to help target the species that are affected by DNR activities. Species criteria include the:

- Occurrence of the species within the planning area,
- Probability of being listed as at risk for extinction during the lifetime of DNR's ESA compliance plan,
- Degree of species dependence on submerged lands for habitat,
- Vulnerability resulting from DNR-authorized activities, and
- Critical benefit to the species from coverage.

## **DNR activities**

Management activities include the leasing of state-owned aquatic lands to governments, businesses, and individuals for uses such as parks, marinas, ports, utility easements and others. The potential effects of such activities on the endangered, threatened and sensitive species and their habitats will be examined.

## **ESA compliance options**

As part of the information gathering phase, DNR is exploring several compliance options, and may choose any or all of the following:

- Improve protections for species and habitats in leasing documents
- Develop policies regarding species protection

- Work with other agencies to improve permits to better protect species and habitats
- Expanding public outreach and education about DNR's mandate and actions to ensure environmental protection of aquatic resources
- Develop a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

Federal agencies responsible for the Endangered Species Act offer various ways to accomplish formal compliance, depending on specific landowner circumstances. As mentioned above, among the options that DNR is looking into is a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for state-owned aquatic lands. (DNR currently has a 70-year multi-species HCP for 1.6 million acres of forested state trust lands - mostly in Western Washington.)

An HCP is an agreement between a landowner (DNR representing Washington state) and federal agencies to achieve long-term ecological goals at a landscape-level. In this agreement the landowner avoids, minimizes and mitigates for harm to a federally listed species or habitat, and therefore is not penalized for infrequent incidental harm to a listed animal, plant or its habitat.

### **Public participation - essential to success**

Public input and feedback are critical to the success of the project. The State Environmental Policy Act laws (SEPA) will be followed, with various opportunities for the public to provide their ideas. If you would like to be kept informed of the progress of the plan, and opportunities to provide input and feedback, contact us at [AQUATICSESA@wadnr.gov](mailto:AQUATICSESA@wadnr.gov)

For information on DNR owned aquatic lands:

[http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/aqr/pdfs/bound\\_aqrlands.pdf](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/aqr/pdfs/bound_aqrlands.pdf)

For information on DNR Endangered Species Act Compliance:

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/aqr/esa/index.html>

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**

## **Meeting Summary**

**Wednesday, February 15, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Snohomish County East Administration Building**  
**Public Meeting Room 1, West**  
**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201**

### **MRC Members Present**

Dawn Lawrence, Chair  
Mary Cunningham  
Heather McCartney  
Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Alternate  
Karen Stewart  
Sally van Niel  
Daryl Williams, NW Straits Representative

### **MRC Members Absent**

Chrys Bertolotto-Excused  
Charles LaNasa-Excused  
Alan Mearns-Excused  
Chet Motekaitis  
Kent Scudder-Excused  
Jen Sevigny-Excused

### **Staff, Presenters and Others**

Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Lead Staff  
Jon Houghton, Pentec Environmental  
Tom Murphy, Edmonds Community College  
Lynda Ransley, Snohomish County SWM

### **Summary of Decisions**

MRC authorized the MRC staff to use the Marjorie Mosher Schmidt Foundation contribution in the amount of \$10,000 to hire intern(s).

### **Follow-Up Items**

#### Dawn Lawrence, MRC Chair

- Draft Letter to Tom Cowan in appreciation of his service as NWSC Director
- Prepare MRC Presentation for WSU Beach Watchers on March 13th

#### MRC Sub-Committee Chairs

- Discuss possible projects for FY 2006 NWSC Grant

#### MRC Staff

- Contact Sen. Patty Murray's office to learn how best to show MRC's appreciation for her support. Respond to MRC at next MRC meeting.
- Follow up on County Recognition of Tom Cowan's efforts as NWSC Director

### **Upcoming Events**

- Next MRC meeting: Wednesday, March 15, 2006, Everett, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- NWSC Meeting- Friday, February 24, 2005, Sequim, 10:00a.m.-3:00p.m.
- WSU Beach Watcher Training- March 13-May 4, 2006, Marysville
- Waterfront and Bluff Owner Workshops-
  - Wednesday, March 8, 2006- Mukilteo 6:00-9:00pm
  - Saturday, March 18, 2006- Edmonds 9:00am-12:00pm
  - Field Trip Session- Saturday, March 18, 2006 Rosary Heights, Woodway 1:00-3:00pm

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)  
February 15, 2006**

**Introductions, Agenda and Meeting Summaries**

Dawn convened the meeting at 6:35p.m. One action item added to the Agenda: approval to use \$10,000 Marjorie Mosher Schmidt Foundation contribution to hire interns. The 1/18/06 meeting summary was approved as written.

**Announcements**

- Heather McCartney presented a gift to Dawn Lawrence on behalf of the MRC members in appreciation of Dawn's continued service as MRC chair.
- Tom Cowan, Northwest Straits Commission (NWSC) Director, has announced his retirement. A committee has been formed to find Tom's replacement. The MRC agreed to send a letter to Tom and Sen. Patty Murray to show the MRC's appreciation of their efforts. Dawn will draft a letter. Additionally, MRC Staff will work to have the County give formal appreciation to Tom Cowan for his efforts.
- WSU Beach Watchers Beach Watcher training in Jennings Park, Marysville: March 13 – May 4, 9 – 3:30 PM, Mondays and Thursdays. Tell your friends! Dawn will give a presentation to Beach Watchers on the first day of training, and will give an overview of the Northwest Straits Initiative, the MRC, and a number of projects that Beach Watchers can be involved in. Dawn and Staff will work together to create a PowerPoint presentation.
- Puget Sound Waterfront Landowner workshops. Linda, Chrys and Stef have been working with a variety of partners to present two workshops for landowners living on bluff edges. Workshop dates will be March 8<sup>th</sup> and March 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Kirby Johnson announced that this is the 10<sup>th</sup> year that lingcod nesting surveys have occurred at Edmonds Underwater Park. Although the numbers of surveyors are low, Kirby says that the surveys show that lingcod are doing well in the area.
- Karen Stewart announced that the last County Shoreline Plan meeting will be held on February 16<sup>th</sup> to wrap up policy on shoreline uses and modifications. Karen anticipates that a public hearing will be held in April, and the plan will be taken to council thereafter.

**Public Comment**

- Jon Houghton announced that he is on a committee to update the Shoreline Master Plan for the City of Edmonds. Jon expects that the committee to develop a restoration plan for the City of Edmonds and to learn more about the Edmonds marsh. He anticipates the committee to work toward ensuring that the marsh is day-lighted as Sound Transit continues development in the area.

**Action Items**

The MRC authorized the MRC staff to use the Marjorie Mosher Schmidt Foundation contribution in the amount of \$10,000 to hire intern(s). See Budget Item in Discussion Items for further detail.

## Discussion Items

### 1) MRC Member Appointments (Staff)

MRC member reappointment applications are now in the Executive's office for final review and approval. Appointments should be completed soon. All odd positions expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008. All even positions expire on Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

### 2) Juvenile Crab Habitat Sampling Report (Staff)

- Draft Project Schedule
  - Don Velasquez (WDFW) and MRC Staff developed a draft project schedule for this project (Attachment A). The schedule for sampling is based on low tide schedule. Staff requested assistance from the MRCs by recruiting volunteers, setting up transects, and hosting a thank you party for volunteers (see superscript "3" on Attachment A). Staff would like the Dungeness crab sub-committee to discuss logistics at its next meeting.
    - Volunteer Recruitment- Dawn will find reliable volunteers to assist with volunteer coordination and communication. Staff will recruit volunteers at the Shoreline Landowner Workshops held this March (MRC booth).
    - Thank you party- Daryl suggested hosting a salmon barbecue party for all volunteers in September.
- Juvenile Crab Sampling Methodology-

WDFW is changing the sampling methodology slightly from last summer:

2005 pilot study:  
Volunteers sampled 2 sites: Edgewater Beach and Kayak Point, and sampled 6 random quadrats at each tide height from -2 to +4 MLLW.

2006 study:  
We plan to include 5 sites total: Edmonds Underwater Park, Picnic Point, Howarth Park, Mission Beach and Kayak Point. We'll sample each habitat type at each tide height between -2 to +4 MLLW.

Jon Houghton suggested that we use the new restoration site north of Mukilteo (at Edgewater Beach) as one of our sampling sites. This site was sampled in 2005, and could be very useful. Staff will follow up on this possibility.

### 3) MRC Budget- (Staff)

Staff reviewed the 2005-2007 NWSC grant budget and financial status as of December 31, 2006. Staff's time breakdown from July-December 2005 is as follows:

- Administrative: 41%
- Outreach: 35%
- Dungeness Crab: 18%
- Nearshore: 5%
- Water Quality: 1% (not including the DOE Beach Program).

Of the remaining staff time in the 2005-2007 grant, Category B: Education and Outreach has the greatest need for assistance, though certain projects in Category C: Action Projects also need additional assistance.

Due to the number and timing of projects required in 2006, Staff recommends additional help via interns to stay on task. Staff requested that the MRC enable Staff to hire two possible intern positions. Staff will attempt to hire an intern through the Washington Conservation Corps. These internships are competitive and not guaranteed.

- 1) Individual Placement 6-month position beginning in April, 2006 (\$9,000)
- 2) Individual Placement 12-month position beginning in October 2006 (\$6,000).

The existing 2005-2007 NWSC grant allows for \$5,100 to be spent on interns in 2006 on juvenile Dungeness crab research project and an outfall inventory throughout the county. Staff proposed to allocate the \$10,000 contribution given to the NWS Foundation from the Marjorie Mosher Schmidt Foundation for intern assistance. MRC members approved the request with a consensus vote. Staff proposed two possible internship descriptions, but acknowledged that these may change depending on need and likelihood of obtaining a WCC intern.

<b>Internship #1 (April-Oct 2006)</b>	<b>Internship #2 (Oct 2006 –Sept 2007)</b>
<p><b>Administration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting Summaries</li> </ul>	<p><b>Administration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting Summaries</li> </ul>
<p><b>Outreach</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dungeness Crab Outreach</li> <li>• Beach Expos</li> <li>• Website</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outreach</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate WQ health issues</li> <li>• Restore/Monitor Picnic/Kayak Point</li> <li>• NOAA circulation model</li> <li>• Nearshore Cooperative Assistance</li> <li>• Website, Rot Cord Study, etc.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Action Projects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Juvenile Crab Study</li> <li>• Outfall Inventory</li> <li>• BEACH Program</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action Projects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outfall Inventory</li> </ul>

**4) 2006 NWSC Grant Potential Projects (Staff)**

The 2006 NWSC grant will be decided on at the February 24 NWSC meeting. NWSC staff is proposing to issue grants in the amount of \$38,000 for Outreach/Education and \$55,000 for Action Projects for each MRC. Snohomish MRC staff requested that the MRC choose projects that will require no additional staff time to implement, as staff is currently working to implement the existing work plan. Staff recommended that the MRC consider projects that augment the existing work plan, or projects that could be funneled through the Northwest Straits Foundation with minimal additional work for staff. Staff gave the examples of projects below for MRC subcommittees to consider.

**Outreach/Education**

- Rot Cord Education
- Beach Watcher Volunteer Coordination
- Kayak Point & Picnic Point Restoration and Monitoring
- Nearshore Cooperative Assistance
- Water Quality Health Issues Research

**Action Projects**

- Derelict Gear Removal
- Mortality Study (Stillaguamish)
- Eelgrass Mapping
- Map Pocket Estuaries
- Creosote Log Removal
- LIDAR mapping
- Contractual-WQ Assessment

## **Subcommittee Reports**

### 1) Dungeness Crab Subcommittee Report (Dawn Lawrence)

The subcommittee did not meet last month. Dawn and Kent plan to meet with Chrys Bertolotto at WSU Beach Watchers to begin planning efforts for the rot cord education distribution project. Dawn hopes to appoint a new committee chair soon.

### 2) Nearshore Subcommittee Update (Karen Stewart)

The subcommittee met with Lisa Kaufman and Ginny Broadhurst to coordinate creosote log removal efforts. Three general areas have been identified as priority areas for creosote log removal:

- Jetty Island- removal will occur by helicopter in September
- Mission Beach- surveys will occur in late spring. We will attempt to coordinate removal efforts in conjunction with Jetty Island.
- South County shoreline- removal will be performed manually at easily accessible areas

### 3) Water Quality Subcommittee Update (Daryl Williams)

The subcommittee met and discussed the following:

- 1) Alan will draft a letter to John Koster on our progress with researching endocrine disruptors, and will let him know about the *Toxics in Puget Sound Forum* on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The MRC will report to the Council on discussion topics addressed in the Forum.
- 2) The subcommittee discussed possible project options to fund with the 2006 NWSC grant. Stef is looking into the possibility of contracting the GIS work for the water quality analysis.
- 3) The subcommittee brainstormed on potential projects surrounding oil spill planning and response to incorporate in future work plans. Topics included using Gnome and/or PRISM water circulation models to better understand possible oil movement, commenting on Geographic Response Plans, updating the Environmental Sensitivity Index, etc.

## **Northwest Straits Commission Retreat Report (Staff)**

### Director's Report: Tom Cowan

The year 2005 was successful in many ways for the NWSC. In particular, visibility catapulted, the MRC's continue to be highly valued by public officials and agencies, and NWSC Staff is in high demand. NWSI reauthorization has been stymied; however. At the moment, this isn't alarming because NWSI still keeps a line item in the Executive's budget; however, without reauthorization, there isn't any guarantee that funding will continue in the future.

Tom listed several ideas to focus on in 2006:

- Continue to work towards reauthorization
- Increase MRC help with grants
- Facilitate WSU Beach Watcher and Shore Stewards Programs (Regional Projects)
- Increase NWSC visibility
- Make NWS Foundation a fully functional organization
- Help replicate NWSI model along South Puget Sound counties (PSAT)
- Hire part-time office assistant to clear Sasha Horst's schedule

### Global Climate Change Discussion

Kathy Fletcher led a short discussion on global climate change and if/how NWSI should work to incorporate the best available science into our efforts. She suggested NWSI and MRCs start thinking more strategically about how our work will be impacted by global warming.

### *Outreach*

Message- we need as much of a healthy resilient ecosystem as possible to minimize the impact that climate change may have on our marine and nearshore resources.

- 1) Education to public and public officials (speakers, booklets, etc)
- 2) Make every project global warming thoughtful

### *Potential Projects*

- 1) Mapping project showing inundation areas in next 50 and 100 years
- 2) Landslide mapping

### NWSI Science Team

Andrea Copping led a discussion on potential projects that NWSC can implement via regional projects:

- Data coordination
- Elwa dam research
- Forage fish life cycle research/ new forage fish surveys
- Invasive species surveys
- Linkages between forage fish and sea bird decline
- Unclassified marine invertebrate surveys
- Marine organisms and global climate change

### Education Committee

Kathy Fletcher led a discussion about NWSC's education and outreach efforts. The committee will be reassessing education strategy and current materials. New committee members are strongly encouraged.

### Northwest Straits Foundation

Joan Drinkwin, NWSF's new Development Director, led the discussion on NWSI's nonprofit fundraising arm. Jodi Kennedy serves as chair. The committee is developing a fundraising strategy that will be presented at the next NWSC meeting. We also brainstormed ideas for how MRC's can take advantage of NWSF. Snohomish County MRC appears to be far ahead of the curve on utilizing the Foundation compared to other MRCs.

Meeting Adjourned

**ATTACHMENT A**

**2006 Juvenile Dungeness Crab Preferred Habitat Study  
Draft Project Schedule  
Developed February 15, 2006**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Task</b>
Feb	-	-	SWM	Complete SOW-MOU
	-	-	SWM	Develop Volunteer Tracking Dbase <sup>3</sup>
	-	-	SWM	Recruit Volunteers <sup>1, 3</sup>
	-	-	SWM	Order Supplies
March			SWM	Hire Project Intern
	-	-	SWM	Complete Methodology/ Develop Sampling Data Sheets
	-	-	SWM	Develop Sampling Maps
	-	-	SWM	Recruit Volunteers <sup>1, 3</sup>
April	-	-	SWM	Recruit Volunteers <sup>1, 3</sup>
	17 (Mon)	9:00am-1:00p	Mission Beach	Volunteer Training with WSU Beach Watchers
	???	???	South County	Volunteer Training
	28 (Fri)	All day	Marina Beach, Picnic Point, Howarth Park	Set up Transects <sup>3</sup>
	29 (Sat)	All day	Mission Beach, Kayak Point	Set up Transects <sup>3</sup>
May	??	???	???	Site Lead Special Training
	12 (Fri)	8:30am	All sites	Juvenile Crab Sampling <sup>3</sup>
	26 (Fri)	9:30am	All sites	Juvenile Crab Sampling <sup>3</sup>
June	14 (Wed)	10:30am	All sites	Juvenile Crab Sampling <sup>3</sup>
	26 (Mon)	9:30	All sites	Juvenile Crab Sampling <sup>3</sup>
	23 <sup>2</sup> (Fri)	8:00am	All sites	Juvenile Crab Sampling <sup>3</sup>
	28 <sup>2</sup> (Wed)	11:00am	All sites	Juvenile Crab Sampling <sup>3</sup>
July	12 (Wed)	10:00am	All sites	Juvenile Crab Sampling <sup>3</sup>
	24 (Mon)	8:30am	All sites	Juvenile Crab Sampling <sup>3</sup>
Aug	9 (Wed)	9:00am	All sites	Juvenile Crab Sampling <sup>3</sup>
	22 (Tues)	8:30am	All sites	Juvenile Crab Sampling <sup>3</sup>
Sept	5 (Tues)	7:30am	All sites	Juvenile Crab Sampling <sup>3</sup>
	???	???	???	Volunteer Thank You Party <sup>3</sup>
Nov	15th	6:30pm	MRC Meeting	Data Summary Presentation to MRC

<sup>1</sup> Minimum number of volunteers needed per site: 5; a total of 25 volunteers needed for each sampling day to cover all 5 sites.

<sup>2</sup> Alternate Dates

<sup>3</sup> Activities MRC Members Can Coordinate or Assist With

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**

## **Meeting Summary**

**Wednesday, March 15, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

**Snohomish County East Administration Building**

**Public Meeting Room 1, West**

**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201**

### **MRC Members Present**

Dawn Lawrence, Chair  
Chrys Bertolotto  
Mary Cunningham  
Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Alternate  
Charles LaNasa  
Heather McCartney  
Alan Mearns  
Karen Stewart  
Sally van Niel  
Daryl Williams, NW Straits Representative

### **MRC Members Absent**

Chet Motekaitis  
Kent Scudder  
Jen Sevigny-Excused

### **Staff, Presenters and Others**

Ann Boyce, Stilly-Snohomish Fishery Enhancement Task Force  
Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Lead Staff  
Linda Lyshall, Puget Sound Action Team  
Kristin Marshall, Stilly-Snohomish Fishery Enhancement Task Force  
Tom Murphy, Edmonds Community College

### **Summary of Decisions**

MRC Subcommittees will identify potential projects to incorporate in the 2006 NWSC Grant and report to the MRC at the April 2006 meeting.

### **Follow-Up Items**

#### MRC Staff

- Continue to process acknowledgements from County Council and Executive for Tom Cowan's work in Snohomish County.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Next MRC meeting: Wednesday, April 19, 2006, Everett, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- NWSC Meeting- Friday, March 28, 2005
- Waterfront and Bluff Owner Workshops-
  - Saturday, March 18, 2006- Edmonds 9:00am-12:00pm
  - Field Trip Session- Saturday, March 18, 2006 Rosary Heights, Woodway 1:00-3:00pm
- Beach Expos
  - Howarth Park- July 22
  - Mukilteo State Park- June 24
  - Kayak Point Park- August 6

## **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**

**March 15, 2006**

### **Introductions, Agenda and Meeting Summaries**

Dawn convened the meeting at 6:30p.m. The 2/15/06 meeting summary was amended on page 4, box labeled "Internship #2" the first bulleted item "Volunteer Coordination/Beach Watchers" was removed. Minutes approved with amendment.

### **Announcements**

- Alan Mearns announced that he has completed the Endocrine Disruptor Letter to the County Council. Copies will be distributed at the April 2006 meeting.
- Chrys Bertolotto announced that the Beach Watcher training is underway. Twenty-five Beach Watcher trainees are participating. Beach Watcher trainees come from as far to the east as Granite Falls, and from Arlington to Edmonds. The class has identified creosote log survey and removal, and the Dungeness crab escape cord education project as two of four class projects. Puget Sound Action Team is funding the Shore Stewards program, with a match coming from the Northwest Straits Foundation. Chrys' proposal for funding through the Washington Sea Grant program was not accepted for a full proposal. The WSU Beach Watcher grant expires in June 2007. Approximately \$50,000/county/year (including WSU overhead) is required to maintain the program.
- Sally van Niel noted that last year only 88 gulls were seen on Protection Island (Jetty Island) last year. Normally over 8,000 are seen.
- Stef announced that he will be giving a presentation to the Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum on April 6 to begin potential partnerships in the future.
- Jeff June- one more day two weeks ago to survey, couple days still needed to finish up Mukilteo area. Port Susan ROV experiment soon (fixing ROV), will be tied up for ROV rest of next week. Will set remainder of our survey in two weeks from now. Crab season is over until June, so surveys should be relatively easy and fast.
- Welcome the Whales Day, Langley, Whidbey Island, Saturday, April 15, 10 am - 5 pm, parade at 1:30, celebrates the spring arrival of resident gray whales to Whidbey Island. with fun and educational activities, music, presentations, and a parade of species featuring the very handsome 20 foot Gray Whale, Gary. Mystic Sea Charters is offering Gray Whale Watches from Langley at 5:30 & 7:30 pm, \$25/person. Bring your costume and join the parade! Talk with me for more info.
- Seattle Post Intelligencer today-front page- \$80million goal in 3-years to launch a multi-billion goal to return Puget Sound to Health. P4PS, Trust for Public Land, and TNC. Already received \$3mil from Russell Family Foundation to launch effort. Focus will be on shoreline restoration work and establishing 10 new parks and protected natural areas around the Puget Sound.
- Orca Federal listing as Endangered went into effect on Feb 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Orcas in Port Susan on March 6th. About 1 1/2 miles off Kayak Point
- Luna (male orca)- fatal accident where he was caught in a boat propeller and died. Fairly large amount of press surrounding the incident.

## **Public Comment**

Tom Murphy distributed a flier advertising the Learn and Serve Environmental Anthropology Field school (LEAF) offered by Edmonds Community College. This program is partnering with the MRC's juvenile Dungeness crab habitat survey project to survey for crabs at Edmonds and Picnic Point.

## **Discussion Items**

### **Staff Correspondence with MRC members-email (Staff)**

- Staff will send announcements of all subcommittee meetings to all MRC members. MRC members are encouraged to attend all subcommittee meetings. Staff will also send training opportunities to all MRC members.
- If any MRC members do not want a particular type of email sent to them (i.e. training events, news updates, etc), the MRC member shall contact Staff.

### **Nearshore Cooperative Partnership (Ann Boyce, Stilly-Snohomish Fishery Enhancement Task Force)**

Ann Boyce and Chrys Bertolotto have started to develop a nearshore cooperative partnership group (currently called "Nearshore Cooperative") that includes a variety of partners including Stilly-Snohomish Fishery Enhancement Task Force, WSU Beach Watchers, Snohomish County SWM, Stillaguamish Tribe, Tulalip Tribes, People for Puget Sound, Edmonds Community College, Puget Sound Action Team, Puget Sound Keeper Alliance, among others. Ann explained that developing a partnership among interested parties in nearshore habitat restoration, protection and education could be beneficial in a variety of ways:

- Increased communication to understand what various groups are implementing
- Networking to develop partnerships for projects
- Coordination and sharing of volunteers
- Developing a group project among all Nearshore Cooperative members.
- Stronger outreach throughout the community

Chrys Bertolotto will be coordinating these meetings for the next year. Meetings will be held quarterly. Ann requested MRC participation in the Nearshore Cooperative. Ann suggested that if the Cooperative maintains momentum, she hopes to create a Memorandum of Understanding among all partners to increase funding opportunities. A clean-up and weed out event at Jetty Island will be taking place on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. MRC members are invited to participate. Additionally, the Cooperative is working to develop a website that provides a calendar of events, contact lists, list servers, etc.

The MRC agreed that participation in the Nearshore Cooperative will be beneficial, and directed Staff to serve on the Committee. The MRC agreed to see how the Cooperative develops over the next year before committing to an MOU.

### **Kayak Point Park Planning Update (Karen Stewart)**

Karen Stewart, Stef Frenzl, Scott Moore, Franchesca Perez and Kayak Point Parks staff met with James Yap, Senior Planner at Snohomish County Parks Department to discuss the recent storm's impact on Kayak Point Park, and possible future efforts to restore the beach and relocate the road that spans along the shoreline. James Yap plans to develop a park proposal that will incorporate SWM staff's proposal to relocate the existing road and extend the beach area, and will submit to the MRC. The MRC agreed to review this proposal when complete, and will consider funding

from the 2006 NWSC grant in the amount of \$10,000-\$15,000 if submitted in a timely fashion. Staff doesn't anticipate the Parks Department moving too quickly on this effort, as relocation of the road may cost significantly more than the amount the MRC is able to contribute to the project. Alan Mearns asked if this site could be used as a time-series photo site. Heather McCartney suggested connecting the Parks Department with the Sustainability Task Force. Linda Lyshall agreed to discuss this potential project at the Task Force meeting.

### **Bluff/Waterfront Workshop Update (Linda Lyshall/Staff)**

Puget Sound Action Team, MRC, WSU Beach Watchers, City of Everett, City of Edmonds, City of Mukilteo, People for Puget Sound, Stillaguamish Tribe, Snohomish County SWM and others have partnered to develop workshops for shoreline landowners living along bluffs. The workshops have the following goals:

- 1) To introduce landowners to geologic processes and hazard indicators
- 2) To give people a toolkit of ideas on how to stabilize their property and to promote healthy marine riparian areas (using native plants, natural lawn care tips, etc)
- 3) To introduce landowners to building regulations'
- 4) To connect people to the available resources to improve and increase on-the-ground stewardship to protect Puget Sound resources.

These workshops have identified a significant need- over 150 people will have attended one of two workshops, over 100 people plan to attend the site visit, and a waiting list of over 120 residents exist.

Puget Sound Action Team will conduct surveys after 6 months to determine if these workshops caused landowners to change any behaviors (plant native plants, not topping trees, etc). Further discussions at the nearshore subcommittee should include answering the following questions:

- 1) Should the MRC continue to focus efforts for landowners on Bluffs, or should we focus on landowners with bulkheads?
- 2) Should we increase emphasis on follow-through with interested landowners?
- 3) How much emphasis should the MRC give to these workshops relative to other efforts?

### **2006 NWSC Grant Budget/Potential Projects (Staff)**

Staff handed out the handout from Northwest Straits Commission (see attachment A).

2006 Grant Funds will be available by July 1<sup>st</sup> or after 4-6 weeks of application submittal (Must submit by September 30 or all funds will go to the default option below). Funds must be spent by June 2007. The funding breakdown is as follows:

Category B Funds (\$38,000): Stewardship/Outreach (website, volunteers, Ed/Outreach, Assessment)

Category C Funds (\$54,000): Action Projects

The NWSC is giving the MRC four options to utilize the 2006 grant funds:

- 1) Supplement on-going projects from existing 2005-2007 Work Plan
- 2) ID all new projects for new year (require technical review)-staff does not recommend
- 3) Request Commission Staff to administer Derelict Gear Removal or Creosote Log Removal
- 4) Regional Project Account: project selected by the NWSC Technical and Science Committee (default option)

The MRC agreed to identify and prioritize potential projects at each subcommittee level and identify each Subcommittee's priority projects. Subcommittee members will develop costs for each project. and then bring the discussion to the MRC at the April or May meeting. Projects will then be weighed against projects of other subcommittees and prioritized at the April and/or May MRC meeting.

### **Internship Opportunity Update (Staff)**

Item tabled

### **Subcommittee Reports**

- Dawn Lawrence submitted a list of tasks that MRC members can perform to implement the MRC Work Plan. Dawn expects each MRC member to participate in at least one of the Beach Expos this year, and strongly recommends that each MRC member contact Staff to assist with additional tasks on the list.
- Dawn asked MRC members if they felt the subcommittee model is working. The intent is to accomplish more from the work plan. Dawn asked MRC members to think about if and how the subcommittee could be better structured to accomplish our goals.
- Subcommittees will meet this month to discuss and prioritize potential projects for the 2006 NWSC Grant

### **Northwest Straits Commission Meeting Report (Kent Scudder)**

Kent absent- no report

### **Training: Lingcod Census in the Edmonds Underwater Park: Status Report (Kirby Johnson)**

Kirby and other divers have been conducting lingcod surveys for ten years at the Edmonds Underwater Park site.

Each year, divers survey fish and egg masses. Fish are measured for size, color (not too useful) and aggressiveness. Egg masses are measured for size and color (indicator of age) and then mapped.

#### Lingcod Biology and Behavior

Lingcod have no swim bladder, and as a result, they like to sit along the bottom. Lingcod aren't killed when caught by line and pulled up (unlike rockfish, where the swim bladder breaks).

Male lingcod guard the nest. They are aggressive, flare gills and arch back. They're more aggressive in the underwater park. Males use the same nest sites each year. Males become more aggressive beginning in September.

Egg masses are all in a cavity. Masses may decrease in size slightly over time, and can become dislodged. Males will accept moved egg masses.

#### Lingcod Management

Today, harvesting seasons are fixed to protect fish during nesting season. Nesting begins earlier at the underwater park compared to San Juan Islands.

Lingcod are in a recovery mode.

### Study Results

The divers were able to identify 6 fish due to injuries: Jack, Max, Bob, etc.

124 egg sites were identified in 04/05. One male can have 6 egg masses in his territory. Females appear to lay eggs and then leave.

The data shows a decrease in males, but fecundity of females appears to be the most important factor affecting the population.

### Conclusion

lingcod populations are recovering. Kirby's study could benefit from more outreach. He discussed developing a website and improved database.

### **Adjourn**

## ATTACHMENT A

### 2006 MRC Grant Process

At the strategic planning retreat in January, the Northwest Straits Commission adopted a work plan and budget for FY 2006, which will begin on July 1, 2006. This budget included a total of \$103,000 for each MRC. The administrative (Category A) portion of those funds (\$10,000) is already written into your current grant. The Commission also discussed the following process for MRCs to receive Category B (\$38,000) and Category C (\$54,000) funds. This is a one-time process for the 2006 transition year only.

There are 4 possible scenarios for MRC to utilize the 2006 grant funds. Your MRC may choose one or more of these options. In all cases, the funds will need to be spent by June 30, 2007 in order to avoid overlapping grants. The Commission is recommending that MRCs carefully evaluate staffing levels and consider using the Category B money to augment staff where needed.

1. MRCs may choose to **supplement on-going projects** with FY2006 funds. This would allow projects to have a larger scope or include additional tasks. For example, MRCs doing an eel-grass mapping project could increase the geographic scope of the mapping. An oyster seeding project could be expanded or additional components (e.g. monitoring) could be added. These activities that expand a project already in the grant could be accomplished through a contract amendment. This fairly simple process can be processed in approximately 4-6 weeks and new 2006 funds would have to be spent by June 30, 2007, the end of the current grant cycle. Your amendment must clearly specify how these funds will be used to expand or augment current tasks.
2. MRCs may want to identify all **new projects** for the coming year. This would require technical review and an amendment to your current grant. We will try to expedite technical reviews. Processing time is approximately 8 weeks and all 2006 funds must be spent by June 30, 2007, the end of the current grant cycle.
3. MRCs could request Commission staff to administer **derelict fishing gear removal or creosote debris removal** in their county and identify an amount for that to occur. In this case, funds would remain at the Commission and changes to current action grants would not need to occur. This process has already been used in Clallam, Snohomish and Island counties for FY 2004 funds. Participating MRCs would have the opportunity to work with the local media and community with regards to the project and take credit for the outcomes.
4. An MRC may find that they prefer to have some of their action grant funds put into a **regional project account**. For example, MRCs could contribute part of their action grant funds into the ecosystem account to be spent on a large regional project selected by the technical and science committee. This is the default option if your MRC does not use all available funds for options 1-3, and for any funds left unspent at the end of June, 2007. *Please consider placing funds here if there is any chance that you will be unable to spend out your grant in time.* This will allow the Commission ample time to ensure the funds are put to good use.

Commission staff expects to work with each MRC to plan for allocation of these funds. The earliest the funds will be available is July 1, 2006. MRCs should target July 1, 2006 as a potential start date. Any funds not allocated by September 30 will default to option four.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Snohomish County East Administration Building**  
**Public Hearing Room, East**  
**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201**

<p><b>MRC Members Present</b>  Dawn Lawrence, Chair  Chrys Bertolotto  Mary Cunningham  Charles LaNasa  Heather McCartney  Kent Scudder  Jen Sevigny  Karen Stewart  Sally van Niel  Daryl Williams, NW Straits Representative</p> <p><b>MRC Members Absent</b>  Chet Motekaitis - Excused  Alan Mearns - Excused  Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Alternate - Excused</p>	<p><b>Staff, Presenters and Others</b>  Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Lead Staff  Lynda Ransley, Snohomish County SWM  Robyn Redekopp, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Intern  Jason Griffith, Stillaguamish Tribe  Bradford Louthan, Citizen</p>
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**Summary of Decisions**

No formal decisions made during this meeting.

- Follow-Up Items**
- Staff and MRC Chair will develop a list of questions for MRC Subcommittees to answer to help prioritize projects for the 2006 NWSC Grant
  - MRC Subcommittees must meet to begin the prioritization process

- Upcoming Events**
- Next MRC meeting: Wednesday, May 17, 2006, Everett, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
  - NWSC Meeting- May 19, 2006, Padilla Bay
  - Beach Expos
    - Howarth Park- June 24, 9:00am to Noon
    - Mukilteo State Park- July 8, 8:30am to 11:30am
    - Kayak Point Park- August 6, 8:00am to 11:00am
  - Juvenile Dungeness Crab Habitat Survey Sampling Dates
    - May 12, 26
    - June 14, 26
    - July 12, 24
    - August 9, 22
    - September 5
  - Puget Sound Partnership Town Hall Meeting: May 10<sup>th</sup>, Everett Event Center 5:30-7:30

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**  
**April 19, 2006**

**Introductions, Agenda and Meeting Summaries**

Dawn Lawrence convened the meeting at 6:30p.m. Approval of the draft meeting summary from the 3/15/06 meeting was delayed to allow for further examination.

**Announcements**

- Tom Cowan, of the Northwest Straits Commission was unable to attend MRC meeting as planned.
- Staff announced success of Bluff/Waterfront Workshops. Successful give-away of more than 900 native plants to shoreline landowners for stabilization of property. Congratulation to Nearshore subcommittee for all their efforts.
- Daryl Williams attended the most recent meeting of the Puget Sound Partnership and provided educational handouts for MRC members from the meeting. Topical forums are planned to meet throughout early May to discuss stormwater, freshwater quantity, habitat, species, and contamination.
- Chrys Bertolotto announced Nearshore Cooperative's planned clean-up and weed out event at Jetty Island would be moved to July 29<sup>th</sup> due to a prior clean-up event by the Everett marinas planned for June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The number of volunteers from the Nearshore Cooperative would overwhelm the planned activities of the day. Weeding was rescheduled to July 29<sup>th</sup> to delay brush removal until after bird nesting season.
- Copies of Alan Mearns' Endocrine Disruptor Letter to the County Council were distributed.
- There will be a Native Plant Sale on May 13<sup>th</sup> in Bellevue. Questions should be directed to Chrys Bertolotto.
- Scheduled dates for the Summer 2006 Beach Expos have changed. Current dates are: Howarth Park, June 24, 9:00am to noon; Mukilteo Lighthouse Park, July 8, 8:30am to 11:30am; and Kayak Point, August 6, 8:00am to 11:00am.

**Presentation**

A special presentation was given by Jason Griffith, Stillaguamish Tribe "Mapping Nearshore Habitat in Port Susan – a Component of Recovery Planning for Stillaguamish Chinook."

**Public Comment**

No public comment.

**Discussion Items**

**Toxics Town Meeting (Jen Sevigny/Mary Cunningham)**

Jen Sevigny, Mary Cunningham and Daryl Williams attended the "Toxics in Puget Sound Forum: Connecting the Marine Environment to Human Health and the Economy" on April 5<sup>th</sup> in Seattle. The forum discussed the connections between storm water pollution and pre-spawning mortality of coho salmon in Puget Sound creeks. It has also been found that many of the Puget Sound contaminants actually come from transpacific sources.

Most of these are brought to the Sound by overseas shipping traffic. Many sources of harmful chemicals in our ecosystem come from human-consumed pharmacological compounds that are not processed out of our wastewater. They include pharmaceutical drugs, hormones, and anti-depressants. The website [www.safecosmetics.org](http://www.safecosmetics.org) shows the everyday products that may be carcinogens or have other health consequences.

### **MRC Chair/Lead Staff Meeting (Dawn Lawrence/Staff)**

Both Chair Dawn Lawrence and Lead Staff Stef Frenzl were unable to attend the meeting off all MRC Chairs and Lead Staff Members. The meeting focused on the purpose of Marine Resources Advisory Committees and what their mission should be. Advocacy was determined to not be included in the committees' purpose; focus should instead be on education and outreach to the public about marine issues.

### **Internship Update (Staff)**

Robyn Redekopp, MRC Intern for 2005 season, has been hired back until early June 2006. Interviews for a summer intern will start April 21, with hopes of having a new intern on board for May to have overlap between the positions to ensure a smooth transition.

### **Snohomish County MRC Budget Planning (Staff)**

Snohomish County is beginning its planning efforts for a biennium budget for 2007 and 2008. Due to Council's recommendations to return with a proposed budget increase, staff recommended to the MRC that we follow the procedure below:

- 1) Snohomish County Public Works- SWM will propose new budget figures in its submitted budget, which will include a separate POG package (May/June). To prepare for this step, the MRC and Staff will need to give details on how additional funding will be spent, a good justification story and performance measures.
- 2) MRC can (and perhaps should) take up the offer to meet with the Executive (and Steve Thomsen for a briefing (in June or July). The Executive will be making the final decisions on the budget he will submit to Council.
- 3) For Council, Dawn may wish to set up a meeting for MRC reps and Councilmember Sievers to follow up on his recommendation to increase the General Fund request. This would be most appropriate in last summer, or early fall. It would be best to do it after we know what's in the Executive's budget (late Sept.) but Council availability often gets quite limited at that point.

Staff will continue to keep the MRC Chair and Vice-Chair updated as these deadlines approach.

## **2006 NWSC Grant Budget/Potential Projects (Staff)**

The MRC budget has been increased by \$92,000 for 2006. Of these funds, \$38,000 are to be spent on Category B (Outreach and Education) spending and \$54,000 on Category C (Action) spending. No additional funding will be available for Category A (Administration) spending. This money can be spent on instigating new projects or augmenting the existing work plan. Staff recommends directing the funds to augment existing projects such as eelgrass mapping, gravid female habitat mapping and water quality investigations, or use the funds to contribute to creosote log removal or derelict gear removal to the lack of excess staff time.

## **Subcommittee Reports**

### 1) Dungeness Crab Subcommittee Report (Chrys Bertolotto/Charles LaNasa)

*Juvenile Dungeness Crab Habitat* - Survey is underway, with staff organizing study with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.  
*Rot Cord*- A big problem with the “rot cord” study is that the public does not know what the term means. Chrys suggested that the biodegradable cotton twine now be called “escape cord.” The number 1 barrier stopping recreational crabbers from using escape cord is lack of knowledge. A new informational flyer with crab graphic has been designed by a volunteer, with input from SWM Staff, which will be placed at high traffic crabber areas such as docks, sporting goods stores, and sporting shows. Kent suggested that this year’s escape cord be distributed in a small ziplock bag that could be reused by crabbers. Dawn suggested that the escape cord information sheet put new recipes on the back, as they were a successful gimmick at the docks.

### 2) Nearshore Subcommittee Update

The Nearshore Subcommittee focused primarily on completing and reviewing the Bluff Landowner Workshops. This effort was tremendously successful, as PSAT has organized an additional two workshops. Staff also distributed over 900 plants to workshop attendees to help stabilize bluffs along the shoreline.

### 3) Water Quality Subcommittee Update

The Water Quality Subcommittee reported on the “Toxics in Puget Sound Forum: Connecting the Marine Environment to Human Health and the Economy” workshop, and developed a list of recommendations for Snohomish County to promote to the Puget Sound Partnership. The list of recommendations was categorized under research, outreach/education and legislative headings. Staff noted that due to time limitations, the opportunity for the County to formally comment to the Puget Sound Partnership on these issues was not likely. Staff recommended that the MRC approach the Northwest Straits Commission with the list and ask for their inclusion as part of the Northwest Straits Commission’s comments to the Puget Sound Partnership in order to ensure that the MRC’s comments would reach the Puget Sound Partnership in time for review and consideration.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**  
**Draft Meeting Summary**  
**Wednesday, May 17, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Snohomish County East Administration Building**  
**Public Hearing Room, East**  
**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201**

<p><b>MRC Members Present</b>  Kent Scudder, NW Straits Representative, Vice Chair  Mary Cunningham  Charles LaNasa  Heather McCartney  Karen Stewart  Sally van Niel  Alan Mearns  Curt Moulton, WSU Beach Watcher Alternate</p> <p><b>MRC Members Absent</b>  Dawn Lawrence, Chair - Excused  Chrys Bertolotto - Excused  Chet Motekaitis - Excused  Jen Sevigny - Excused  Daryl Williams - Excused  Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Alternate - Excused</p>	<p><b>Staff, Presenters and Others</b>  Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Lead Staff  Robyn Redekopp, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Intern  Morgan Neal, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Intern  Chris Betchley, Citizen  Lincoln Moore, Citizen  Thomas Murphy, Edmonds Community College</p>
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**Summary of Decisions**

No formal decisions made during this meeting. Minutes were not approved due to no quorum at beginning of meeting. April and May minutes will be addressed at June MRC meeting.

- Follow-Up Items**
- MRC Subcommittees must meet to begin the prioritization process

- Upcoming Events**
- Next MRC meeting: Wednesday, June 21, 2006, Everett, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
  - NWSC Meeting- May 19, 2006, Padilla Bay
  - Jetty Island
    - Site Visit- May 19, 9:30a.m.
    - Cleanup- June 3, 9:00a.m.
  - Beach Expos
    - Howarth Park- June 24, 9:00am to Noon
    - Mukilteo State Park- July 8, 8:30am to 11:30am
    - Kayak Point Park- August 6, 8:00am to 11:00am
  - Juvenile Dungeness Crab Habitat Survey Sampling Dates
    - May 26
    - June 14, 26
    - July 12, 24
    - August 9, 22
    - September 5

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**  
**May 17, 2006**

**Introductions, Agenda and Meeting Summaries**

Kent Scudder, acting chair in the absence of Dawn Lawrence, convened the meeting at 6:30p.m. Quorum was not met for approval of the draft meeting summary from the 4/19/06 meeting.

**Announcements**

- Curt Moulton, head of the WSU Beach Watchers Program, announced the first graduating class of Snohomish County Beach Watchers. This means a new pool of volunteers that will be willing and able to assist the MRC with projects. The Beach Watchers Program will reach the end of their funding through the EPA at the end of 2007 and is looking for another source of funds. WSU Extension is actively searching for this new source.
- Tom Murphy, director of the Anthropology Department at Edmonds Community College, announced open spaces left in his summer Lean-n-serve Environmental Anthropology Field School (LEAF). This class is vital to the juvenile Dungeness crab habitat study, providing volunteers for at least two of the sampling sites. Copies of the class announcement were handed out. Please inform students of this opportunity.
- Welcome to Morgan Neal, the MRC's new intern. Morgan has a B.S. in Fisheries Biology from Humboldt State University and is now working on his Master's Degree at the School of Marine Affairs at the University of Washington. He will serve as an intern until September, working on juvenile Dungeness crab habitat, escape cord education, the BEACH program, and updating the website, among other projects. Our other intern, Robyn Redekopp, will graduate from the University of Washington with a B.S. in Aquatic and Fisheries Science in early June and will be leaving us.
- Tom Cowan, of the Northwest Straits Commission, has extended his stay as Director until the end of June. He will attend the next MRC meeting on June 21.
- The next Northwest Straits Commission meeting will be on May 19, 2006 to interview three candidates for the new director.
- A site visit to Jetty Island is scheduled for May 19, 2006. Kraig Hansen, Chief Naturalist of Jetty Island with the Everett Parks Department, will take interested parties by boat to the island for planning of the cleanup event on June 3, 2006. Please meet at the 10<sup>th</sup> Street Boat Launch on Marine Drive in Everett at 9:30a.m.
- People for Puget Sound is sponsoring a Spartina dig-out day on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at Turner's Bay in Skagit County.
- Bill Lider from the Pilchuck Audubon Society is working to install 3-5 concrete pilings with platforms placed on top for osprey nesting. The Society is considering partnering with the Coast Guard to remove a derelict boat that is being used for storage of oil and/or hazardous materials and is also home to an osprey nest. Ed Schultz, the area's osprey expert, will be working with the Audubon Society on the project.

- The last of the Waterfront and Bluff Land Owners Workshops will be held May 20, 2006 at the Woodway Heights nunnery. This is a full session, with 40 people signed up. The workshop includes a half day series of presentations with a 2 hour field trip in the afternoon. Overall, more than 225 people have attended these workshops.
- Staff has received a letter from the Washington Department of Health stating that they have completed the annual review of the classification of Washington's shellfish growing areas. The southern portion of Skagit Bay, formally in Snohomish County, is threatened with a downgrade in classification. The area will not be closed for shellfish harvest at this time, but interested parties are encouraged to collaborate on how to improve water quality.
- The Puget Sound Partnership has held a number of town hall meetings and other forums to ask for public input on future development and image. An online survey is available at [www.pugetsoundpartnership.org](http://www.pugetsoundpartnership.org) to contribute ideas. The survey is open until May 31, 2006. Their website includes additional information on the Partnership and what they hope to achieve.

### **Public Comment**

No public comment.

### **Project Updates**

#### **Juvenile Dungeness Crab Preferred Habitat Study (Staff)**

This project started on May 12. Two general sampling training events, in addition to training of all site leads and one-on-one site evaluations with staff, occurred throughout April and early May in preparation for the study. Sampling could not occur without the help of our partners: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), WSU Beach Watchers, Edmonds Community College, and the Tulalip Tribes. Results from this study will show the habitat types and tide height elevations used by juvenile Dungeness crabs in the nearshore. This data, in addition to the time of year of settlement, will give WDFW the information needed to include juvenile Dungeness crab life history strategies and habitat preferences in hydraulic permit requirements. New policies may include establishing time windows for construction activity on juvenile Dungeness crab habitats.

May sampling will take place in Edmonds, Picnic Point, Mukilteo, and Kayak Point. Over 25 volunteers have dedicated themselves to long-term sampling goals throughout the summer. Sampling from June to September will hopefully include a fifth site on at Hermosa Point, located on the north end of Tulalip Bay. Inclusion of this site will require the dedication of approximately ten more volunteers. All MRC members are encouraged to help in this project. Future sampling dates are May 26, June 14 and 26, July 12 and 24, August 9 and 22, and September 5.

#### **Beach Expo Signup**

All MRC members are asked to volunteer for at least one Beach Expo over the summer. Expos will include beach naturalists from the Beach Watchers Program, representatives from the Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force, and a display from the MRC. Expo events are planned at Howarth Park (June 24, 9:00a.m. to noon), Mukilteo

Lighthouse Park (July 8, 8:30a.m. to 11:30a.m.), and Kayak Point (August 6, 8:00a.m. to 11:00a.m.).

### **Discussion Items**

#### **Intern Update (Staff)**

Staff has applied for a Washington Conservation Corps IP Intern that would begin in October. The position description drafted by staff looks like one of the top applications in the state. Tied with the backing of the Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force, provided funding is available there is a good chance that an intern will be awarded to the MRC. We will be notified in June if we have been awarded the position. The MRC contribution would be between \$5,000-\$6,000 coming from the Marjorie Mosher Schmidt Foundation.

#### **Juvenile Dungeness Crab MOU (Staff)**

Staff met with Mike McHugh of the Tulalip Tribes. The meeting made progress on both the Scope of Work and the Memorandum of Understanding. The documents will hopefully be completed within the next few weeks before entering the County approval process. If all proceeds as scheduled, both will be completed before the July MRC meeting.

#### **Puget Sound Partnership Town Hall Meeting Report (Mary Cunningham/Staff)**

The Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) has plans to restore Puget Sound by the year 2020. A Town Hall Meeting was held on May 10, 2006 at the Everett Events Center. Discussion topics included what a healthy Puget Sound looks like, the progress that has been made, and how to engage the public. There was a mixed response as to whether a gloom and doom approach or appeals to what people love works better for gaining public interest. A contractor has been hired to coordinate outreach work.

There was a day-long science forum on May 15, 2006 at the University of Washington to obtain scientist and manager recommendations on components of the conservation/restoration plan PSP is developing. The attendees broke into teams for in-depth discussions of specific topics. Topics included freshwater quantity, habitat protection, habitat restoration, species and food web issues, toxic contamination, nutrients and pathogens, and stormwater. Each team created a draft ecosystem-wide goal (including big picture outcomes), the challenges for the topic, possible outcomes for 2020, and the key questions for developing strategies and actions. The discussion papers for each topic are available on the PSP website ([www.pugetsoundpartnership.org](http://www.pugetsoundpartnership.org)). The results from the science forum will also be posted on the website.

#### **Southern Resident Killer Whale ESA Listing – Council Report (Staff)**

A report on the status of Southern Resident Killer Whales was presented by Staff to the Council on April 24, 2006. A copy of this report was distributed. Snohomish County SWM Staff recommended continuing to track the process of developing the recovery plan. It is currently unknown how the ESA listing will affect the County. The Council directed staff to track the progress and report when the public comment opens on the recovery plan. There is currently nothing in the MRC work plan that covers staff effort in

tracking the Southern Resident Killer Whale listing progress, and time will be limited for developing a comment letter. The MRC should take this into consideration and determine if funds should be allocated in the 2006 work plan to allow for additional tracking, an in-depth comment letter, and the development of the MRC's future role in implementing the recovery plan. Sally van Niel has agreed to serve as the MRC contact to staff.

### **SWM Demonstration Soft Shore Armoring Project Proposal (Staff)**

There is a possibility that funds from the Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), taken for capitol projects in the county, may be available to create a soft-shore armoring demonstration site. If approved, REET funds would cover the feasibility and design phases in 2007 and construction in 2008. It may be possible for this effort to develop without MRC involvement; however, it is a good opportunity to look at how the MRC can become a leader in the Northwest Straits in regard to restoration projects.

To be considered as a location for this project the site may be public or private, but must be accessible for demonstrations. The site should be chosen for high probability of success (near a park, no bulkhead attached on adjacent properties, etc.). The MRC's role in this project would be site selection, planning, volunteer coordination, and media coverage of the project.

### **2006 NWSC Grant Potential Projects (Staff)**

As discussed in past meetings, there are additional funds on the measure of \$92,000 available to the MRC for projects. This funding may be used to supplement on-going projects, identify new projects, administer derelict fishing gear removal or creosote debris removal, or it may be given to the regional project account. The MRC has agreed to prioritize projects at the subcommittee level that might use this funding, but several projects don't fall under the subcommittee level and could be considered for inclusion in the project prioritization.

The WSU Beach Watchers are considering creating a proposal for \$10,000 in addition to the \$4,000-5,000 proposal to coordinate the escape cord education project in 2006-2007. There is a question of where the new funds would be spent, and if they would be spent specifically on MRC-related projects, general volunteer coordination, the development of spring 2007 Beach Watchers training, or planning and coordination with MRC Staff. Before any funding is allocated to the Beach Watchers, the donation would be cleared with the NWSC; funds given to the WSU Beach Watchers would go directly from Snohomish County to WSU without overhead costs. Comments were made that any money given to the Beach Watchers program should be directly related to the MRC, deal with volunteer coordination for MRC events, or tie in with specific benchmarks and deliverables to the NWSC.

It was proposed that some of the funding be allocated to hiring a consultant for a strategic planning retreat for the 2007-2009 work plan. A facilitated retreat would help to develop a work plan that is goal oriented and focused. Long-term, mid-term, and short-term goals and objectives would be developed for each subcommittee. A potential date for such a meeting would be February 2007 to provide enough time to create a sound and thoughtful

work plan. The MRC will consider this option when reviewing all potential projects to fund with 2006 NWSC funds.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

#### 1) Dungeness Crab Subcommittee Report (Charles LaNasa)

*Derelict Gear Removal*- Charlie reported that any funding we have extra may be put into removing derelict gear, but the subcommittee agrees that maybe this year the focus of funding should be directed somewhere else to evenly disperse the money.

#### 2) Nearshore Subcommittee Update

Did not meet since last MRC meeting.

#### 3) Water Quality Subcommittee Update

Did not meet since last MRC meeting.

### **Northwest Straits Commission Meeting Report (Kent Scudder)**

Kent was unable to attend the last NWSC meeting. The next meeting will take place on May 19, 2006 for interviewing of candidates for the director position that will be vacated by Tom Cowan in late June.

### **Presentation**

A special presentation was given by Alan Mearns, MRC Member and NOAA Scientist "Mussel Watch: Contaminant Trends in the Whidbey Basin: 1985-2004." Major findings include-

- For nearly 2 decades mussels at most sites in Washington have contained PAH concentrations well above the National Median (220ppb). The highest concentration of PAH's in 2004 was in mussels at a site in Port Townsend: 19,000ppb dw (86 times the National Median).
- The most PAH contaminated mussels in Washington during the past decade came from the Everett Harbor site in 2000: the concentration was about 31,750 pb dw or 144 times the National Median. This was also the highest concentration ever recorded for 64 sites along the entire US Pacific Coast by the NOAA National Status and Trends Program. The Everett mussel concentration dropped to 880 ppb dw by 2004.
- Two new sites were sampled in 2004:
- Edmonds (inshore of the Underwater Park) mussels contained 1760 ppb dw total PAHs (8 times National Median)
- Mukilteo mussels contained 46000 ppb dw (21 times the National Median)
- The source "fingerprint" for these sites in combustion, NOT oil or creosote.

For a copy of this presentation, contact Stef Frenzl, MRC Lead Staff.

### **Adjourn**

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**  
**Draft Meeting Summary**  
**Wednesday, June 21, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Snohomish County East Administration Building**  
**Public Hearing Room, East**  
**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201**

<p><b>MRC Members Present</b>  Dawn Lawrence, Chair  Kent Scudder, NW Straits Representative, Vice Chair  Mary Cunningham  Heather McCartney  Karen Stewart  Sally van Niel  Chrys Bertolotto  Chet Motekaitis  Jen Sevigny  Daryl Williams</p> <p><b>MRC Members Absent</b>  Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Alternate – Excused  Charles LaNasa – Excused  Alan Mearns - Excused</p>	<p><b>Staff, Presenters and Others</b>  Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Lead Staff  Morgan Neal, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Intern  Lynda Ransley, Snohomish County SWM  Tom Cowan, NWSC  Lew Moore, NWSC  Chris Betchley, Citizen/Beach Watcher  Linda Lyshell, PSAT  Jon Houghton, Pentec Environmental  Nir Barnea, NOAA</p>
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**Summary of Decisions**  
April and May meeting minutes were approved.

- Follow-Up Items**
- Staff will submit matrices for each subcommittee to prioritize potential projects for the 2006 NWSC grant
  - MRC Subcommittees will prioritize subcommittee-related projects
  - Dawn, Kent and Staff will develop a draft 2006 NWSC grant proposal to use as a working document at the July MRC meeting. The proposal will be finalized at the July MRC meeting

- Upcoming Events**
- Next MRC meeting: July 19, Everett, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
  - NWSC Meeting: June 29, 2006 at the Inn at Port Gardner in Everett from 10:00am-3:00pm.
  - NWSC MRC Conference- November 3-4, Orcas Island at the Rosario Resort
  - Beach Expos
    - Howarth Park- June 24, 9:00am – 12:00pm
    - Mukilteo State Park- July 8, 8:30am to 11:30am
    - Kayak Point Park- August 6, 8:00am to 11:00am
  - Juvenile Dungeness Crab Habitat Survey Sampling Dates
    - July 12, 24
    - August 9, 22
    - September 5

## **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**

### **June 21, 2006**

#### **Introductions, Agenda and Meeting Summaries**

Dawn Lawrence convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. On behalf of the MRC, Dawn presented a letter and gifts to Tom Cowan. Tom gave a farewell speech and thanked the MRC for all of the work it has accomplished over the years. Tom also introduced the incoming NWSC Director, Lew Moore, former Chief of Staff for Congressmen Jack Metcalf. MRC members expressed their gratitude towards Tom for his work with the NWSC and the MRCs. Lew gave an introductory speech and looks forward to working with the MRC.

#### **Announcements**

- The NWSC Conference is on November 3-4 at Orcas Island.
- Chrys Bertolotto announced that the Beach Watchers are developing a series of maps that identifies locations along the Snohomish County shoreline that were used to train volunteer oil spill assessors. In the event of an oil spill DOE will call the WSU Beach Watchers in order to speed up the response time. This booklet will be the “first response” manual to help DOE and USCG determine the size and extent of an oil spill. Chrys asked that she be informed if anyone knows of a shoreline property owner with a good view that is willing to allow volunteers access to their property in the event of an oil spill. Alan Mearns is working with Staff to set up an Oil Spill Assessor Training in August.
- Chrys Bertolotto announced that the Wash. Dept. of Agriculture, PSAT, and the Pacific Coast Venture are releasing orange drift cards in Puget Sound to determine where *Spartina* seeds may spread. Chrys also announced that the People for Puget Sound has created a *Spartina* identification card.
- Chrys Bertolotto announced the Marine Mammal Stranding Network Training on June 28, 10AM – 12 PM at Stanwood PUD.
- Chet Motekaitis reported on the Everett/Jetty Island Beach Cleanup held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, where they uprooted Scotch Broom.
- Mary Cunningham announced that the Jetty Island environmental review comment period ends next Friday, June 30.
- Staff announced that the Jean-Michel Cousteau’s Ocean Adventures series airs on PBS on Wed. Sept. 20, 8PM (Part One) and on Wed. Sept. 27, 8PM (Part Two). Part Two contains a feature story on the Olympic National Marine Sanctuary.
- Staff announced that Ginny Broadhurst sent the water quality comments to Scott Redman, PSAT, without any association to the Snohomish MRC. Ginny encourages individuals to go to the Puget Sound Partnership website to submit comments online. The marine water quality subcommittee’s comments were incorporated as much as possible in NWSC’s comment letter.
- The Stillaguamish Tribe’s Festival on the River will be held August 12-13, 10AM – 6 PM.

## **Public Comment**

Jon Houghton of Pentec Environmental reported on the restoration site visit to the Mukilteo Tank Farm. Jon mentioned there were many juvenile Dungeness crabs and forage fish using the beach. The intertidal eelgrass is doing “mediocre” while the subtidal eelgrass was doing well last fall. The next site visit is planned for the week after July 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **Project Updates**

### Beach Expo Signup (Staff)

Staff announced the first of three Beach Expos will be held on Saturday June 24th at Howarth Park and announced the names of MRC members scheduled to attend. Expo events are planned at Howarth Park (June 24, 9:00a.m. to noon), Mukilteo Lighthouse Park (July 8, 8:30a.m. to 11:30a.m.), and Kayak Point (August 6, 8:00a.m. to 11:00a.m.).

### Education Escape Cord Update (Chrys Bertolotto)

Chrys passed around the Escape Cord card that will be given out at public boat launches at Everett, Mukilteo and Kayak Point this summer. The cards will also be posted at bait shops and marina facilities, and will be included in the Ports’ newsletters. A training for these events will be held 6:30 – 8:30PM at the Snohomish County East Administration Building, where Jeff June will give a presentation regarding crabs caught in lost crab traps and the use of escape cord.

## **Action Items**

### Marjorie Mosher Schmidt Foundation (MMSF) Contribution Allocation (Staff/Dawn)

Original hopes were to use funding from the Foundation to support a Washington Conservation Corps Individual Placement intern for one year, but no new positions opened this year. \$10,000 has been allocated from the Foundation. Dawn Lawrence proposed that \$5,000 be used to support an intern and \$5,000 to support the WSU Beach Watcher Core Training Program. Dawn stressed that the Beach Watchers have been a tremendous help to the MRC projects, and allocating this money to them would show the support and thanks of the MRC. Other members also mentioned how important the Beach Watchers are to the MRC.

Kent requested that \$5,000 allocated to WSU Beach Watchers be directed toward an MRC project, as MMSF would like to see the funds go towards more specific, “on the ground” deliverables.

Consensus was made to allocate \$5,000 to support an additional intern for the summer of 2006 and the remaining \$5,000 to support WSU Beach Watcher coordination for an MRC-related project.

## **Discussion Items**

### MRC Outreach Strategies (Staff)

Staff announced the results of an Opinion Research and Outreach Survey conducted for the Puget Sound Partnership. 825 Puget Sound citizens were surveyed by phone; interviews were held with regional opinion leaders; focus groups were conducted across the Puget Sound region; and 296 people took an online survey. Major findings included that transportation, education, population growth and housing ranked higher than the environmental state of Puget Sound

among the most important issues in the region. There is a strong disconnect between the public perception of the health of Puget Sound and the findings of the PSAT, found in the State of the Sound report. Three out of four respondents rated Puget Sound's environmental health as "excellent" or "pretty good", while 24% rated it as "not so good" or "poor." The State of the Sound Report rated it as "poor." People believe that it is important to protect Puget Sound for future generations, to provide habitat for fish and wildlife and because it is good for the economy. Opinion leaders suggested connecting the protection of Puget Sound to the economy.

Staff proposed that the MRC start to think "bigger" than just numbers of people contacted, number of maps created, crab pots removed, etc., and also look at why conservation matters to people and communities. Staff mentioned that storytelling is one approach among a suite in a toolbox, and read an excerpt from Classic Parker's "5 Star Garden" to demonstrate how storytelling can be an effective outreach strategy. Staff proposed that the MRC find similar stories about local people, such as fishermen and birdwatchers, in order to help people see why MRC projects are important to people in addition to wildlife. Staff reported that presentations on local conservation issues were given to high school students and found that while most students learned a great deal, some did not see how the health of Puget Sound was relevant to them. Staff asked that MRC members think about why they are a MRC member and think about stories they can tell that show how people connect with Puget Sound. Staff and Dawn Lawrence proposed that the MRC discuss this issue at a later meeting.

#### Puget Sound Partnership Retreat (Daryl Williams)

Daryl gave a synopsis of the Puget Sound Partnership Retreat that he attended. They discussed the history of Puget Sound and problems that have led to its current state. They agreed that positive things have been done to improve the environmental state of Puget Sound, but that it has not kept pace with the human population growth and its associated effects on Puget Sound. They also discussed how the current governance structure is preventing improvements to the health of Puget Sound, but no one could come up with an exact answer as to how. Linda Lyshall of PSAT announced that PSAT is working on recommendations related to funding. PSAT and Shared Strategy are developing recommendations for the Governor on steps to improve the health of Puget Sound. There are six goals identified by the Puget Sound Initiative, to be attained by the year 2020. The goals relate to environmental health, human health, and social and economic well-being in the Puget Sound region. The Tribes are currently adding some language to the recommendations concerning issues that are important to the Tribes. The next Puget Sound Partnership meeting is scheduled for July 22 at the Lynnwood Convention Center. The Partnership will be handing over their final report to the Governor in November.

#### 2006 NWSC Grant- Potential Project List (Staff)

Dawn Lawrence announced that each subcommittee is currently identifying their prioritized project list. Staff will work with Dawn Lawrence and Kent Scudder to develop a draft grant proposal, including projects, amounts and options for the MRC to work through for the next MRC meeting. The MRC will vote on the projects for the 2006 Grant at the July MRC meeting. Staff will send each subcommittee a matrix with potential projects, budgets, and other criteria that will help them prioritize projects. Staff stressed that participation by all MRC members is needed. Staff will submit the NWSC grant application after the July meeting.

### January 2007 MRC Strategic Planning Retreat

This effort would include hiring a facilitator and expenses to develop and conduct a strategic plan for 2007-2009. This would include working directly with MRC subcommittees to develop SMART goals and hold a one-day retreat in January or February 2007. Staff received a recommendation from Dave Ward to work with Tina Hokansen, a Snohomish County employee with expertise in facilitation. Staff asked MRC members to consider opening their home for the retreat. The expenses for this project are currently unknown. Staff currently estimates that expenses would be between \$3,000 and \$7,000, and will work to develop an accurate cost estimate if requested by the MRC. Sasha Horst at NWSC mentioned that this retreat would qualify as Category B funding. Dawn Lawrence announced that there will be some turnover with the MRC members, and so she would like to ensure existing expertise continues on in the form of a strategic plan. Staff brought up the idea of creating a MRC training manual for incoming members as a part of this project. Several members agreed that a training manual would be very helpful for new members. Consensus was made to rate this project as "high" as a potential project for the 2006 NWSC Grant, and directed Staff to develop a cost estimate.

### Beach Watcher Contributions (May 2006 MRC Meeting Discussion)

Staff reported that funding Beach Watcher core training can be considered a deliverable under Category B (if using MMSF funds). Staff recommended contributing a minimum of \$5,000. Dawn Lawrence would like to see between \$5,000 and \$7,000 contributed. There are several proposals for the crab and nearshore subcommittees that include Beach Watcher funding for their projects. Consensus was made to rate this project as "high" as a potential project for the 2006 NWSC Grant, and the MRC will determine an amount at the July Meeting when reviewed among all other projects.

### Additional Funds for 2007 MRC Conference (in November on Orcas Island)

Because MRC member participation at the 2005 MRC Conference was high, remaining funds may not be sufficient to cover all expenses for the 2006 NWSC Conference. Approximately 50% of the funding from the 2005-2007 NWSC Grant is remaining. Staff will work with Sasha to find out if the MRC will need more funding, and will include any additional amount needed in the 2006 NWSC Grant application.

## **MRC Subcommittee Reports**

No reports given. Each of the subcommittees will meet by the second week in July, so that Staff and Dawn Lawrence can discuss the project lists.

## **Northwest Straits Commission Meeting Report (Kent Scudder)**

Kent Scudder gave a summary of the previous NWSC meeting. The NWSC meeting discussion included the Puget Sound Partnership, marine birds and the incoming NWSC Director. The next NWSC meeting will be held at the Inn at Port Gardner in Everett, located just north of the Naval Station on Marine View Drive on Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 3:00. Snohomish County Council Chair Kirke Sievers will be giving the introduction, and Dawn Lawrence will be giving a short presentation on the MRC's existing work.

## **Presentation: Shore Steward Program (Chrys Bertolotto, Skagit-Snohomish WSU Beach Program Coordinator)**

A presentation was given by Chrys Bertolotto on the Shore Stewards Program. The Shore Stewards Program is sponsored by the WSU Beach Watchers, PSAT, NWSC, and NWSF.

- The Program encourages shoreline owners to follow guidelines that promote environmental health in Puget Sound.
- Requirements for becoming a Shore Steward include signing up and adopting three of ten guidelines. Landowners are not required to make any changes to their property to become a Shore Steward.
- The Guidelines include:
  - Use water wisely.
  - Manage water runoff.
  - Encourage native plants and trees.
  - Control pests and fertilizing safely.
  - Understand bluff dynamics before developing.
  - Respect intertidal life.
  - Preserve eelgrass beds and forage fish spawning habitat.
  - Know and practice all elements of septic system maintenance.
  - Use soft armoring techniques when appropriate.
  - Know permit procedures for shoreline development.
- Shore Stewards Program tools include:
  - Guide for Shoreline Living Booklet with local contacts.
  - Monthly e-newsletter.
  - A person to contact with questions.
  - Recognition.
  - Workshops.
  - Informative website with reference materials.
- Snohomish County Shore Stewards Launch Year Goals (by June 2007):
  - 100 Certified Shore Stewards.
  - Create local tools for implementation.
  - Run three shoreline landowner workshops with partners.
  - Give presentations to homeowners associations and attend festivals.
  - Extensive evaluation of the Shore Stewards Program.
  - Leadership role in regional collaboration.

**Adjourn 8:25PM**

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**Wednesday, July 19, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Snohomish County East Administration Building**  
**Public Hearing Room, East**  
**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201**

<p><b>MRC Members Present</b>          Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Alternate          Mary Cunningham          Heather McCartney          Karen Stewart          Sally van Niel          Daryl Williams</p> <p><b>MRC Members Absent</b>          Dawn Lawrence, Chair - Excused          Kent Scudder, NW Straits Representative, Vice Chair - Excused          Charles LaNasa - Excused          Alan Mearns – Excused          Chet Motekaitis          Jen Sevigny - Excused          Chrys Bertolotto - Excused</p>	<p><b>Staff, Presenters and Others</b>          Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Lead Staff          Morgan Neal, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Intern          Dave Ward, Snohomish County SWM          Lew Moore, NWSC Director          Chris Betchley, Citizen/Beach Watcher          Lincoln Lorn, Citizen</p>
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**Summary of Decisions**

2006 NWSC Grant Proposal was approved by consensus.

- Follow-Up Items**
- The discussion over the BEACH Program will be continued at the following WQ Subcommittee Meeting.
  - Arrange to have a representative from Snohomish PUD speak at a future MRC meeting concerning tidal energy projects.
  - Discuss the Nearshore Cooperative Day of Caring Event – September 15

- Upcoming Events**
- Next MRC Meeting (Picnic): August 16, Kayak Point Park, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
  - NWSC Meeting: July 28, 2006 at the Tulalip Inn from 10:00am-3:00pm.
  - NWSC MRC Conference- November 3-4, Orcas Island at the Rosario Resort
  - Beach Expos
    - Kayak Point Park- Sunday, August 6, 7:30am to 11:30am
  - Juvenile Dungeness Crab Habitat Survey Sampling Dates
    - August 9, 22
    - September 5
  - Salmon Homecoming – September 8-10, Seattle

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**

## **July 19, 2006**

### **Introductions, Agenda and Meeting Summaries**

Kirby Johnson convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

#### **Announcements**

- Mike McHugh of the Tulalip Tribes sent Staff the MOU Scope of Work for the Juvenile Crab study on July 19. The MOU is currently in the Tulalip legal department; Staff will initiate the Snohomish County approval process.
- Chrys Bertolotto reported on the June 6<sup>th</sup> Creosote Log Training event. Twenty-eight people attended and all of the 'accessible' Tulalip shorelines were selected for surveys. Chrys gave her thanks to Daryl Williams for the Tribes' role in sponsoring the workshop and to Mary Cunningham for attending the event.
- Staff reported on the Dungeness crab kill in Blaine (north of Bellingham) earlier this month. The kill was due to a severe low tide and very warm temperatures. Don Velasquez of WDFW said that it is not a common occurrence, but it does happen under those conditions. The adults are more susceptible during the mating season because they are closer to shore.
- Staff announced that there was an article in the Everett Herald on July 18 concerning bulkhead permits on the Tulalip Tribes Reservation.
- Staff reported on the results for the BEACH Program, a weekly water sampling at 5 marine sites in Snohomish County that monitors for *Enterococcus* bacteria. The Edmonds Underwater Park has had high levels of Enterococcus bacteria on some days during the past few weeks, however re-samples taken the same week had safe bacteria levels. Marina Beach South in Edmonds and Howarth Park have had a few days with high bacteria levels in the past two months. These sites were re-sampled each week, and the re-samples were at safe levels. Staff reported that the BEACH Program is not part of the NWSC contract. Staff also reported that Snohomish County SWM does not have the legal authority to post warning signs, but the Snohomish Health District, which has the authority to post signage, has not shown interest in participating in the program. SWM will not continue the Program next year, and Staff will be setting up a meeting with DOE, the Health Department and the Snohomish Health District to encourage the District to participate next year. MRC members discussed what entity in Snohomish County should be responsible for conducting the water sampling; Staff suggested that it be discussed at a future Water Quality Subcommittee Meeting.
- Daryl Williams gave an update on the Puget Sound Partnership. There will be a meeting on Saturday, July 22 at the Lynnwood Convention Center. The interim report was sent to the Governor on July 10. The report details the varied pollution problems facing the Sound. In response, the Partnership is calling for a new, comprehensive strategy to protect and restore Puget Sound that looks at the whole eco-region. A comprehensive ecosystem approach would be a major departure from current efforts and would mark a paradigm shift in recovery efforts for the rivers, streams, and marine waters of the region. The final report will be out in October/November. The interim report is available at

[www.pugetsoundpartnership.org](http://www.pugetsoundpartnership.org). Staff will forward Partnership documents sent from Daryl Williams to MRC members.

- Staff handed out an article titled “Bird-loving engineers ready to help ospreys” published in the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce on July 3, 2006. It talks about the Pilchuck Audubon Society’s efforts to replace creosote pilings that have osprey nests with concrete pilings in Port Gardner Bay.
- Staff announced that Escape Cord Education Cards are available for anyone to hand out on their own time.
- Staff announced that Chrys Bertolotto will be chairing the Nearshore Cooperative meetings this first year.
- Staff announced the United Way - Day of Caring Event on Friday, September 15, 10:00 am – 3:00pm at Jetty Island. Workers will be marking creosote logs for removal, picking up trash, removing weeds and conducting nature walks on Jetty Island. The Nearshore Cooperative is working with the City of Everett Parks Department to have ferry transport available for the work crew. Up to 300 people may be attending the event. Staff asked the MRC to let him know if anyone would like to participate in the planning or attend this event.
- Staff announced the Stillaguamish Festival on the River on August 12 and 13, where Staff will be manning a MRC booth.
- Stef announced that he will be out of the office from July 20<sup>th</sup> until August 1<sup>st</sup>. Stef will not be able to check messages during this time. Stef asked that anyone with pressing needs get in touch with Dave Ward or Lynda Ransley by calling the SWM number 425-388-3464.
- Daryl Williams announced that the Salmon Homecoming event will be held in Seattle? On September 8-10. The Salmon Homecoming event has been held annually for the past 13 or 14 years.
- Daryl Williams announced that the upcoming NWSC Meeting will be hosted by the Tulalip Tribes at the Tulalip Inn on July 28. Daryl will be giving a presentation at the Meeting on projects that the Tribes are currently working on.
- Daryl Williams announced that the Washington Tribal Energy Company and Snohomish PUD filed an application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for tidal energy projects in Puget Sound. This would consist of mounting turbines underwater and connecting them to local distribution centers or mainline systems. Washington Tribal Energy and Snohomish PUD applied for a three year study. Kirby Johnson suggested that someone give a report to the MRC on the specifics of the tidal energy projects. Daryl Williams suggested that someone from Snohomish PUD come to a future MRC Meeting to give a report.
- Staff announced that Dawn Lawrence and Kent Scudder will be giving a presentation on the MRC’s work to the Snohomish County Executive in the near future.

## Public Comment

- Lincoln Lorn reported on the bright orange bioluminescent plankton bloom in Puget Sound, which he believes is *Nocitluca spp*, which is harmless to humans and marine life. Lincoln also reported on a *Heterosigma* bloom in the Straits, which can be hazardous to net-pen fishes.

- Dave Ward said that he is very impressed with the work that the MRC has been doing, and has very high hopes for future work that the MRC will be heading up.
- Chris Betchley commented on how she has been actively doing work with the MRC and has really enjoyed it; she is also very happy with the information that is being gathered from MRC projects. Chris looks forward to continuing her work with the MRC.
- Heather McCartney commented on how Beach Watcher volunteers really “stepped up to the challenge” at the Mukilteo Beach Expo, and did an excellent job at informing beach-goers on local marine life.
- Heather McCartney asked if the destroyed bulkhead on Hermosa Beach could be replaced with soft-shore armoring. Daryl Williams said that it was mentioned to the Tulalip Planning Department, but they were not sure if it is the right location for soft shore armoring.
- Chris Betchley asked if there had been any more developments on the break down of escape cords at Port Townsend, and mentioned that she had heard that the results were not what was expected after the first 6 months of testing. Staff will give an update next week.
- Lew Moore announced that the NWSC Meeting will be held next Friday, July 28. Jeff June will be giving a presentation on derelict gear removal
- Chris Betchley announced that she will come back to the MRC at the next meeting with information on mussels and how they are an indicator species for the human environment, and information on the interactions between chemicals, water and fish in the marine environment.

## **Project Updates**

### Beach Expo Signup (Staff)

Staff reported on the first two Beach Expos that were held on Saturday June 24th at Howarth Park and at Mukilteo Lighthouse Park on Saturday, July 8. Both Expos reached several hundred people. There were displays for the MRC, WSU Beach Watchers and the Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force. Beach Watchers informed beach-goers on local marine life and marine issues. The Task Force conducted beach cleanups and removed large amounts of trash and debris. The last Expo and Cleanup event of the summer will be held at Kayak Point Park on Sunday, August 6, 8:00a.m. - 11:00a.m. Staff will begin setting up for the Expo at 7:30 am. MRC Members scheduled to attend include Daryl Williams and Dawn Lawrence.

### Intern (Staff)

Staff announced that during the previous MRC Meeting the MRC allocated \$5,000 of the MMSF funds to cover an additional intern. Staff has hired Wendy Fisher; Wendy has a BS in Biology from UW and is currently enrolled in the Master of Arts in Policy Studies program at UW Bothell. Wendy is also a Beach Watcher and has served as a site lead for our juvenile Dungeness crab habitat study. She has also worked on the escape cord education project. Staff reported that we are very lucky to have her on board. Wendy will be working on a number of projects, including producing MRC promotional materials, the Picnic Point Feasibility Analysis, the Mussel Watch Program, water quality health investigations, and shoreline monitoring plan objectives.

## **Action Items**

### 2006 NWSC Grant Application (Staff)

Each subcommittee has met and identified projects to prioritize with general guidelines for Staff to follow upon and include in the draft proposal for the discussion tonight. Staff announced the goals for the meeting:

- 1) Review the proposal
- 2) Discuss the overall proposal and/or activities of particular projects
- 3) Discuss any budget change proposals within Category B and Category C.
- 4) Come to consensus on proposal.

After the MRC has approved the proposal, Staff will submit a formal application to the NWSC to amend the existing 2005-2007 NWSC Contract. NWSC will then review our formal application to ensure our projects and deliverables are appropriate, realistic and feasible. The NWSC may require additional changes to our application before we move forward with amending our existing contract.

5) Staff will obtain direction if the NWSC requires changes to the grant proposal. Staff has already had discussions with the NWSC and anticipates that most projects are likely to be approved without any problem.

## **Project Discussion Highlights**

### Creosote Log Removal Project

Staff noted that a contract needs to be set up, and Dave Ward recommends moving forward on it. This will allow for a streamlined process to be set up, so that it will not be a problem in the future. The MRC would be funding the placement of an additional piling; this would show the support of the MRC.

### Water Quality Investigations

Heather McCartney asked Staff about the WQ Assessment project. Staff reported that the original plan for the project was to have an intern collect water quality data from different cities and counties and compile the information, however this task was found to not be appropriate for an intern. Staff has done some initial scoping on the project and asked Ecology for recommendations, but no one has done this type of project before. Lincoln Lorn suggested Staff talk to Susan Braley who heads up the WQ effort for Ecology. Lew Moore mentioned that the NWSC often works with Ecology on these types of issues and suggested Staff talk to Terry Stevens at Ecology. Staff said that it may be more effective to hire a temp for the project, however Ecology might rather contract the work. Heather McCartney brought up the State of the Sound Report and commented on how she would like to be able to see data for a specific area, not just the general data on Puget Sound. Heather also commented on how it would be helpful to have more information that could be given out to the public concerning what the problems are and what people can do to help.

Heather suggested sending proposals to the Russell or Bullet Foundations so that we can get the data that will help people understand the problems in Puget Sound. Staff reported that he met with Joan Drinkwin and highlighted the water quality project. Lincoln Lorn offered to give a

presentation on the 303d Program to show the MRC the current water quality data that exists. Staff said that we have the initial data, but would appreciate an update. Heather suggested this be discussed at a MRC Meeting. Kirby suggested that this be discussed at a future MRC Meeting.

#### Mussel Watch Program

Staff reported on the Mussel Watch proposal from Alan Mearns. The Mussel Watch Program would be expanded to include four additional sites in Snohomish County (in addition to the two sites NOAA is establishing in Edmonds and Mukilteo). The WQ Subcommittee is interested in a long term program, but it is still unknown as to what will be done with the resulting data.

#### Juvenile Dungeness Crab Habitat Survey

Staff announced that during the previous MRC Meeting the MRC reached a consensus to place \$5,000 for a new intern and another \$5,000 to go toward a WSU Beach Watcher Program. Staff asked the Crab Subcommittee if we could switch the \$5,000 from the Beach Watcher Program to fully fund the juvenile Dungeness crab habitat project. \$5,000 would cover the remaining project expenses. As a result, the Crab Subcommittee asked Staff to take this into consideration when reviewing the WSU Beach Watcher projects. Staff said this equates to almost a no-net change, but it makes it easier for Staff to manage the grant contract with the NWSC.

Staff proceeded to give an overview for all of the Category B & C projects (see attachment A). Daryl moved to accept the proposal as presented. Staff announced that Jen Sevigny sent in a proxy vote to enable the MRC to approve grant proposal at this meeting. Staff read aloud Jen's comments on the grant proposal; Jen approved both the B and C budgets and recommended that the Beach Watcher funding, derelict gear removal project and water quality assessment be fully funded. The MRC approved the grant proposal by consensus. The MRC also directed Staff to work on the proposal with Dawn and Kent if the NWSC makes any changes.

### **Discussion Items**

#### MRC Picnic – Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm MRC Meeting (Staff)

Staff announced that the picnic shelter is available for the picnic at Kayak Point. MRC members agreed that the picnic should be held at Kayak Point again this year. MRC members also agreed on having a potluck again. Staff will work on getting free parking for the picnic. Staff said that it will be up to Dawn as to whether or not a MRC meeting will be held beforehand. Staff will send out a notice to members on what they should bring to the potluck. Heather McCartney noted that everyone present at the meeting is invited to the picnic.

#### MRC Volunteer Thank-You Party (Staff)

Staff announced the thank you party that will be held for volunteers, possibly in September. Staff asked the MRC if anyone was interested in helping Staff plan for this event. Heather McCartney and Mary Cunningham both mentioned that they were interested in helping. Kirby Johnson asked Staff if the Picnic and Thank You Party could be combined into one event in the future. Staff said he would speak with Dawn Lawrence to receive her direction.

#### Skagit MRC Joint Meeting (Staff)

Staff spoke with Mike See, the new lead staff for the Skagit County MRC, and they would like to propose a joint meeting for the October or November MRC Meeting. Possible goals of the

meeting include learning more about each other's projects and identifying possible partnerships. Staff asked the MRC if they would like Staff to coordinate with the Skagit MRC to have a joint meeting in October. The MRC was supportive of the idea. Heather asked Staff if the Skagit MRC could come to Kayak Point in August for the picnic. Karen Stewart suggested that we invite the Skagit MRC to come to the picnic. The Skagit MRC meets the second Thursday of every month, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.

### **Northwest Straits Commission Meeting Report (Staff & Lew Moore)**

Staff reported on the first half of the June NWSC Meeting, and announced that the meeting went very well. Snohomish County Council Chairman Kirke Sievers came to give the opening welcome. Dawn Lawrence followed with a ten minute presentation on the MRC's work plan. Dawn highlighted the escape cord education project and distributed cards to all of the NWSC members. There was interest among the NWSC members in spreading this effort across the NW Straits. Chairman Sievers also recommended that the MRC follow up with the Executive and Council. The NWSC sent a letter to the Executive and Staff is working with Dawn Lawrence and Kent Scudder to prepare them for speaking with the Executive next month concerning the proposal from the General Fund. Chairman Sievers spoke well of the MRC, and he said that he looks forward to the MRC's proposal. The MRC has proposed \$135,000 from the General Fund. Lew Moore reported on the second half of the NWSC Meeting. They discussed ways to help MRCs obtain more capacity to do more strategic planning and outreach. There is a proposal to obtain another staff person to help MRCs do this and to provide support for tribal relationships. There were discussions with the principals involved with the Partnership. The NWSC is advocating that the Partnership not propose any regulatory changes that would interfere with the work of the NWSC and the MRCs. Lew announced that there will be another science gaps workshop, possibly in the Fall, with a more flushed out meeting the following Spring. The NWSC is working on an E-Newsletter to allow for better communication between the NWSC and the MRCs. Heather McCartney commented that it is difficult to read newsletters from all of the different agencies (WDFW, PSAT, etc) and that she would like to see them brought together. Lew would like to receive plenty of feedback from the MRCs on the E-Newsletters. Daryl Williams announced that the Action Team recently discussed ways to pull agencies together; they concluded that only two agencies had the ability to coordinate with each other, the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency and the NWSC.

**Adjourn 8:35PM**

**ATTACHMENT A**

**2006 NWSC Grant Preliminary Proposal- CATEGORY B**

Project	New/ Existing Project?	On the ground result?	2006 NWSC Grant					2005-2007 NWSC Grant				
			2006 Total	2006 SWM # Staff Hours	2006 Staff Hours Amount	2006 Supplies Amount	2006 Contractual Amount	'05-'07 Total	'05-'07 Staff Hours Amount	'05-'07 Staff Amount	'05-'07 Supplies Amount	'05-'07 Contractual Amount
<b>Non Subcommittee</b>								-	-	-	-	-
<b>Develop 5-year Strategic Plan</b>	New	No	\$7,000	59	\$2,000	-	\$5,000	-	-	-	-	-
<b>WSU Core Beach Watcher Training</b>	New	No	\$10,000	-	-	-	\$10,000	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Dungeness Crab</b>												
<b>Distributing escape cord to comm./rec crabbers</b>	Existing	Yes?	\$3,700	-	-	\$1,200	\$2,500	\$1,697	20 hours	\$675	\$1,022	0
<b>Nearshore</b>												
<b>Maintain Kayak Point</b>	Existing	Yes	\$1,169	5 hours (Moore)	\$169	-	\$1,000	\$338	10	\$338	-	-
<b>Maintain Picnic Point</b>	Existing	Yes	\$7,674	15 hours (Moore)	\$506	\$2,169	\$5,000	\$338	10	\$338	-	-
<b>Expanded Beach Visitor Education</b>	New	No	\$2,500	-	-	-	\$2,500	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Water Quality</b>												
<b>Mussel Watch Program</b>	New	No	\$5,957	20 staff & 20 intern	\$975	\$4,782	\$0	\$675	20 hours	\$675	\$0	\$0

**TOTAL**

**\$38,000**

## 2006 NWSC Grant Preliminary Proposal- CATEGORY C

Project	New/ Existing Project?	On the ground result?	2006 NWSC Grant					2005-2007 NWSC Grant				
			2006 Total	2006 SWM # Staff Hours	2006 Staff Hours Amount	2006 Supplies Amount	2006 Contractual Amount	'05-'07 Total	'05-'07 SWM # Staff Hours	'05-'07 Staff Amount	'05-'07 Supplies Amount	'05-'07 Contractual Amount
<b>Dungeness Crab</b>												
Derelict Gear Removal	New	Yes	\$17,199	\$675	20	-	16,444	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Nearshore</b>												
Eelgrass Mapping and Protection	Existing	Yes	\$6,626	-	-	-	\$6,626	\$21,476	120	\$4,050	-	\$17,426
Creosote Log Survey & Removal	Existing	Yes	\$1,500	-	-	-	\$1,500	\$2,701	70	\$2,701	-	-
Port Gardner Osprey Nest Project	New	Yes	\$8,675	\$675	20	-	\$8,000	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Water Quality</b>												
WQ Assessment	Existing	No	\$20,000	-	-	-	\$15,000-\$20,000	\$10,939	220 staff & 190 intern	\$10,939	\$0	\$0

**TOTAL**

**\$54,000**

# 2006 NWSC Preliminary Budget Proposal

## CATEGORY B NOTES

### 1) Develop 5-year Strategic Plan

Since the May MRC meeting, Snohomish County's PIE group has determined that they no longer have capacity to serve in this role. Staff recommends contracting a facilitator for the retreat to ensure that staff has the ability to participate in the retreat discussions. Staff has received two cost estimates. Facilitation includes preparation, a one-day retreat, three subcommittee meeting facilitation efforts, and reporting/documentation. Staff time includes setting up the contract, retreat participation and assisting the facilitator to minimize expenses when possible. This project assumes the MRC can find a retreat location at minimal expense. Strategic Plan development will begin in late October 2006.

### 2) WSU Core Beach Watcher Training

**Background:** WSU Beach Watchers are individuals who are recruited, selected and trained to provide at least 100 hours of volunteer time over two years acting as educators, researchers and project leaders on behalf of Puget Sound protection. These individuals become catalysts for stewardship in their own neighborhoods while providing needed educated labor to numerous project partners, including the Snohomish County Marine Resources Committee. Each class takes on up to three class projects, recommended by the Beach Watcher Advisory Committee. Beach Watchers are also encouraged to work on other projects as suits their geographic location, their interests and the needs that exist at that time.

Deliverable 1: Develop and facilitate a 100 hour training program to provide basic natural resource knowledge, enhanced stewardship skills and team work capability to meet base WSU Beach Watcher requirements.

Deliverable 2: Recruit and select up to 25 participants for the Spring 2007 Beach Watcher class to be held in Snohomish County.

Deliverable 3: Engage and support existing Beach Watchers in appropriate projects and provide continued learning opportunities to them.

**Core Program Requested Funding:** \$10,000

Staff Time: \$7,000

Supplies: \$2,000

Travel / Room Rental: \$1,000

### 3) Distributing escape cord to comm./rec crabbers

The MRC has already met the 2005-2007 requirements for this project. The deliverable will be to submit a summary report. Approximately 10 hours of staff time remains, plus approximately \$600 in supplies. Chrys Bertolotto is writing up the draft summary report as the deliverable.

The subcommittee has seen significant success with this effort, and discussions on how to expand on the effort has already begun. Because the 2005-2007 grant deliverables have already been met, Staff requests that additional staff time be minimized to ensure that remaining deliverables will be completed. WSU Beach Watchers have proposed to take this project on with additional funds from the 2006 NWSC. WSU Beach Watcher Coordinator and WSU Beach Watchers will work with the Snohomish Marine Resources Committee to evaluate the 2006 program and then create and implement an improved education program to be launched in 2007.

### 4) Maintain Kayak Point

Nearshore Subcommittee proposes to continue stewardship at Kayak Point:

Maintain site. Move logs moved from winter storms, unbury live native plants, plant additional native plants (already purchased- currently at nursery), etc.

1 Day Field Crew : \$1,000

Supervisor time (Scott Moore): 5 hours (\$169)

Kayak Point Total: \$1,169

### **5) Maintain Picnic Point**

Removal of English ivy and Himalayan blackberry, change grade of backshore to increase water availability, move downed trees to beach for additional large woody debris, chip branches of trees and use as mulch in upper marine riparian area.

Five Days Field Crew (minimum): \$5,000 (if WCC Crew, this will give us 9-10 days)

Supervisor time (Scott Moore): 15 hours: (\$506)

Certified Arborist: \$1,000

Native Plants: \$2,173

Picnic Point Total: \$13,506

### **6) Expanded Beach Visitor Education**

With limited public access in Snohomish County, heavy use and ignorance of beach etiquette can have an acute negative impact on local shoreline conditions. At the same time, high visitation offers an ideal opportunity to awaken visitors' interest and understanding on Puget Sound ecology, sensitivity of organisms during low-tide and each person's role in maintaining a healthy Puget Sound. This project would expand the Beach Naturalist days beyond the 3 Beach Expos that the MRC already does and work with Snohomish County Surface Water Management's school field trip program to connect classes to WSU Beach Watchers.

Deliverable 1: Double Beach Naturalist Days to six and connect with at least three field trip groups in May – August 2007. Plan the 2007 Beach Naturalist Program with a WSU Beach Watcher Planning Team, including sites and dates. Invite other organizations to bring their displays to events.

Deliverable 2: Provide specialized training to at least 15 WSU Beach Watchers to act as educators in a low-tide setting and to act as team leaders at different sites.

Deliverable 3: Advertise and Launch Beach Naturalist Days.

### **Expanded Beach Visitor Education Requested Funding: \$2,500**

Staff Time: \$1,000

Supplies: \$750

Travel / Advertising: \$750

### **7) Mussel Watch Program**

Staff proposes to request a re-allocation of funds from the Whidbey Basin Circulation Model project to support the Mussel Watch program (20 hours at \$675- see above). Alan Mearns has developed a scope of work detailed below. Existing staff time would likely be sufficient to establish the necessary agreements with the lab (approx 10 hours), in addition to 10 hours devoted to coordinating volunteers. Additional staff time (20 hours), intern time (20 hours), travel, supplies, shipping costs and lab expenses would be necessary from the 2006 NWSC grant.

### **Alan's Proposal**

During 2007 the MRC will initiate a Mussel Watch sampling program. The purpose of this program is to obtain current information on the relative concentrations of chemical contaminants in nearshore waters of Snohomish County. Mussels (and other shellfish such as oysters) concentrate water-borne chemicals in their soft tissues, providing an index to water quality with respect to chemical contaminants. Over time (months, years), sampling mussels from fixed locations, and subjecting them to chemical analysis, will provide the MRC with information about which chemicals are present and whether contamination is increasing or decreasing over time. Using protocols already established by NOAA, including a 20-year national data-base, Snohomish County MRC will be able to compare our data with those from elsewhere in Puget Sound, Washington and the entire United States.

During 2006/07 mussels will be collected at up to five Snohomish County sites, processed and analyzed for over 100 trace chemicals by the laboratory that supports the NOAA Mussel Watch program. Steps in this project will include:

- 1) Survey shoreline for mussel bed locations and report (BeachWatchers)
- 2) Select 4 locations for sampling
- 3) During a low tide series (winter) sampling team collects 3 composites of 50-100 mussels each at each of 4 sites.

- 4) Within 24 hours ship (fedEx) to TDI Brooks laboratory and confirm
- 5) Receive, process and report data (3-6 months lag)

**Expenses**

Laboratory Chemical Analysis PO: \$800/sample x 4 samples	\$3,200.00
Labor Sno Co.: 20 H @ \$33.75/hr (in addition to current funds)	\$675.00
Intern 20 H @ \$15.00/hr	\$300.00
Travel: Gas for volunteers, collector	\$200.00
Supplies: Ice chests, bags, labels, ice, buckets	\$182.00
Shipping: (ice chests with ice and samples)	\$1,400.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$5,957.00</b>

TDI Brooks will remove and composite soft tissue, homogenize, extract and analyze for concentrations of:

- 45 PAH's (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons)
- 18 PCB congeners
- 15 organochlorine pesticides (DDT, chlordane)
- 4 organotin compounds (vessel coatings)
- 10 other persistent organic compounds
- 15 trace metals (eg, mercury, lead, arsenic, etc)

Deliverable: Report by June, 2007, summarizing new Mussel watch data in context of regional and national patterns

# 2006 NWSC Preliminary Budget Proposal

## CATEGORY C NOTES

### 1) Derelict Gear Survey & Removal

Staff recommends prioritizing this project as high. This effort continues to be a hot topic, and we've received significant praise from Council as a result from our work.

The 2004 survey identified 842 crab pots in Port Gardner between 0-100 ft. Jeff has already investigated 328 (39%) crab pots in Port Gardner and removed or disabled 301 pots. 26% of the pots were still actively fishing. 514 (61%) derelict crab pots remain. He removes an average of 20-25 pots per day, with a maximum of 52 pots per day. DG crab pots have their greatest impact on the crab fishery within the first year. Catch rates decrease significantly as the pot becomes older.

After the 2004 survey and during removal, Jeff found an additional 38 pots in 2004, and 21 pots in 2005. These DG items were probably lost subsequent to the sidescan sonar survey or could have been missed in the survey transects.

Staff recommends that we perform a new survey from the 0-100ft depth from the cranes in south Everett to Mukilteo, identify DG lost since the 2004 survey, and prioritize new DG for removal first before removing DG identified in the 2004 survey. These data will also begin to give us DG accumulation rates in Port Gardner, while simultaneously removing DG causing the greatest impact. Additional staff time will be necessary for PSA development, media relations, planning, prioritization, implementation, evaluation, and MRC member coordination.

Staff: \$675 (20 hours)

Contractual Cost Estimates

- 1) Plan development, approval, & notification: \$1,200
- 2) Survey- Total Survey Cost: \$4,400
  - Sidescan Sonar Survey \$2,200 per day x 2 days
- 3) DG Removal- Total Removal Cost: \$3,055 per day.
  - Vessel and 3 divers (one is a backup diver and two are work divers) \$2,200
  - Data collection \$800 per day
  - Navigation Computer Use \$55/day
  - Disposal: dependent upon weight but typically \$275 to \$400
- 4) Final Report \$2,400

Note: The deliverables for this project will be a new side-scan survey between Everett and Mukilteo to identify new derelict fishing gear (within the past two years), and to prioritize the removal of these crab pots. After planning, survey, and reporting expenses, we will have enough funds to remove approximately 75-100 pots. These Dungeness Crab subcommittee felt it was more appropriate to identify new pots and remove them compared to continuing the removal of pots known to be derelict for over two years.

### 2) Eelgrass Mapping and Protection

Existing funding for this project is not adequate to obtain the final product- a usable GIS map identifying the full extent of eelgrass along the Snohomish County shoreline. Below is a revised budget break-down:

Data collection (field): \$14,000

Data Post Processing: \$2,450

Data merge (depth and video): \$5,000

Report on subtidal extent (and GIS data layer): \$2,000

SnoCo SWM GIS final map: \$1,350

Project Coordination: \$2,700

Total: \$27,500

Existing amount in 2005-2007 NWSC Grant: \$21,476

Additional needed: 6,024 (+ 10% contingency) = \$6,626

### 3) Creosote Log Survey & Removal- PROPOSED CHANGE FROM SUBCOMMITTEE

Remaining staff time will be used for media relations, partnership development and developing a scope of work for outreach and removal efforts among local residents in September 2007. Additional funds are necessary to

Draft MRC Meeting Summary

June 21, 2006

Page 13 of 14

coordinate volunteers to mark creosote logs on Jetty Island and possibly another site along Tulalip Tribal lands. Chrys Bertolotto from WSU Beach Watchers has agreed to coordinate this effort, including recruiting volunteers, coordinating an orientation, developing a marking plan, implementing the creosote marking effort, and reporting.

#### **4) Port Gardner Osprey Nest Project**

The Pilchuck Audubon Society has requested funding from the MRC to implement the Port Gardner Osprey Nest Project. This project includes driving 4 piles on Tulalip Tribal lands, and one pile on the Shadow Development property located at east Everett along the Snohomish River estuary. Nearshore Subcommittee is proposing to allocate \$8,000 to cover expenses to drive one additional piling for an Osprey nest.

Staff estimates that approximately 20 hours will be required to set up the contract, coordinate with PAS on media outreach, and develop the final report.

#### **5) WQ Assessment**

##### **Compile/ Evaluate MWQ Data & Monitoring Plans/ID gaps & trends**

Staff recommends augmenting this program as much as possible. The WQ Subcommittee has authorized the use of staff funds (\$10,939) to hire a temporary Water Quality GIS Specialist position at Surface Water Management to compile data sets, evaluate monitoring plans, run GIS analyses, identify potential pollutant sources, and identify data gaps and water quality trends. This amounts to approximately 9 weeks without intern assistance, including staff time required to hire the position. The WQ Subcommittee acknowledges that a third-party consultant may be necessary to assist the Water Quality GIS Specialist, but currently no funds are available from the 2005-2007 work plan to cover contractual expenses. Staff will coordinate with NWSC to write the contract in a way that will give us the most flexibility.

##### **Deliverables include:**

- 1) Obtain outfall maps and water quality monitoring data (GIS or from spreadsheets) from municipalities, tribes, etc.
- 2) Develop a comprehensive map with multiple data sets from the above agencies, entities
- 3) Run statistical analyses using flow-trace software, to identify data gaps, trends and possible pollution sources that affect nearshore water quality

If expenses permit, additional deliverables may include

- 1) ferret through DOE NPDES files for discharge limits, etc. and include in the analysis

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**Wednesday, September 20, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Snohomish County East Administration Building**  
**Public Hearing Room, East**  
**3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201**

<p><b>MRC Members Present</b>  Dawn Lawrence, Chair  Mary Cunningham  Heather McCartney  Karen Stewart  Charles LaNasa  Sally van Niel  Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Alternate  Chet Motekaitis  Jen Sevigny  Alan Mearns  Daryl Williams</p> <p><b>MRC Members Absent</b>  Chrys Bertolotto – Excused  Kent Scudder, NW Straits Representative - Excused</p>	<p><b>Staff, Presenters and Others</b>  Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Lead Staff  Wendy Fisher, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Intern  Chris Betchley, Citizen/Beach Watcher  Linda Lyshall, PSAT  Sean Edwards, Snohomish County SWM  Elaina Foley, Navy</p>
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**Summary of Decisions**

June 2006 and July 2006 meeting summaries were approved. MRC approved submitting a support letter for the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians Derelict Gear Removal grant application to NOAA MDP .

**Follow-Up Items**

- Staff & Heather McCartney will draft escape cord/crab survey abstracts for GB/PS Research Conference
- Staff will draft a report with degradation times of escape cord for the Dungeness Crab Subcommittee
- Wendy will compile a summary of Jetty Island Day of Caring and thank you letters to the donors
- Staff will complete NWSC Application
- Staff will send current Puget Sound Partnership Recommend & public meetings notice to MRC members
- Staff will set up meeting on Tuesday October 17<sup>th</sup> for Karen, Charlie, Dawn, Chet, and Sally to brainstorm MRC comments regarding the Puget Partnership recommendations
- Staff and Dawn Lawrence will complete letter of support for Stillaguamish Tribe's NOAA MDP Grant
- All subcommittee leads will meet individually with Staff and Chair to review goals
- Staff will look into submitting juvenile crab survey story to Mukilteo Beacon and Everett Herald
- Daryl Williams and Dawn Lawrence said Staff may talk to them if contact information for residents on particular beaches is needed for Shoreline Landowner Workshops
- Staff will send out current version of the PSP recommendations document and public meeting notice.

**Upcoming Events**

- Next MRC meeting: October 18, Everett, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Puget Sound Partnership Final Recommendation Public Hearings:
  - First Congregational Church, Bellingham – October 16, 6-8pm
  - Sons of Norway, Viking Ballroom, Bremerton – October 17, 6-8pm
  - Carco Theatre, Renton – October 24, 6-8pm
- NWSC Meeting: October 27, Inn at Port Gardner in Everett from 10:00am-3:00pm
- Shoreline Landowner Workshop: October 28, North County Fire Station
- Soft Shore Armoring Workshop – October to be determined, Coupeville, Island County
- 2007 Georgia Basin Puget Sound Research Conference abstracts due, November 1
- NWSC MRC Conference: November 3-4, Orcas Island at the Rosario Resort

## **Introductions, Agenda and Meeting Summaries**

Dawn Lawrence convened the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Dawn noted the addition of the action item regarding Jen Sevigny's grant support letter. The June 2006 and July 2006 Snohomish County MRC meeting summaries were approved as written.

### **Announcements**

- On Aug 15, with a unanimous 5-0 vote, the California Fish and Game Commission approved a network of 29 MPAs covering over 200 square miles of state waters along California's central coast. This plan, the first step in a master-plan for the entire coast, should receive final approval in early 2007 after environmental and regulatory review.
- On Aug 31<sup>st</sup>, a mysterious oil spill that covered as much as 11 acres near the Edmonds ferry terminal was spotted by chance early Wednesday. Efforts to corral it before it dissipated were unsuccessful. Staff spoke with Curt Hart, Spills Program Director for the Dept of Ecology, who had determined the spill consisted of weathered diesel fuel after taking a slight sample in late afternoon. The amount spilled is unknown. By using film by King 5 and coast guard, DOE calculated that the spill actually spread to 141 acres (between 1-200 gallons), not the 11 acres reported in the Herald. Analytical procedures and biomarker analyses are being conducted to pinpoint the fuel product and the responsible individual. No shoreline impacts identified.
- By late August, an alarming number of Washington marine waters have reached dangerously high levels of marine bio-toxins that cause paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP). The Everett Herald reported this as the worst red tide in a decade. Expanded beach closures spanned from Everett south to just north of Olympia. Scientists were particularly worried by very high levels of the toxic organisms called Alexandrium, which produce powerful neurotoxins that cause PSP in humans. These conditions prompted additional shellfish harvest closures.
- PSAT contracted an evaluation of Alternative Shoreline Stabilization Projects throughout the Puget Sound, and the draft evaluation report was recently completed. Linda Lyshall, Tim Walls and Staff are working to bring Wendy Gerstel, author of the report, to Everett on Thursday, October 26th (possibly) to present her findings to the MRC, Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum, City and County Planners, and other interested parties. Sean Edwards commented that he had read the Alternative Shoreline Stabilization Projects draft and felt it provided a grounded approach to soft-shore armoring and that the document will be of use to the public.
- The Puget Sound Partnership legislative tour intends to provide local State Legislators with a perspective on what the Puget Sound Initiative entails in their local and other jurisdictions. Because the main focus of the Puget Sound Initiative's capital budget request is for salmon recovery, we will concentrate on that area. However, the Puget Sound Partnership and others (Tribes, lead entities, staff, many, many others) consider the work ecosystem based, meaning we want to incorporate other aspects of achieving the Governor's 2020 Vision.
  - The raft tour will be on the Lower Skykomish River on a date to be announced by Executive Reardon (probably mid-October). Invitations will be sent by the Executive. There is the possibility of the MRC lead staff and Chair (also include NWSC?) as well as lead staff and Chairs from the Snohomish, Stillaguamish, Island County, and Skagit River Basins attending. Key messages to get across on

the tour include: Partnership is important to support. We need it to recover the Sound. Supporting the Initiative will result in on-the-ground protection and restoration of our home, an area that attracts many of us who live here. Support brings together a broad array of interests and perspectives, including multiple basins, MRCs, tribes, government agencies, farmers, etc

- Heather brought up the recent newspaper article concerning the poor health of the ocean and the lack of Federal attention. Staff said that copies of the article are available, should anyone want their own.

## Public Comment

No comment

## Project Updates

### Juvenile Dungeness Crab Study

Staff covered key findings of the 2006 Juvenile Dungeness Crab Study. Staff reported that Don Velasquez (WDFW) will be giving formal presentation to the MRC this winter after data analysis is complete. Major highlights:

- 685 samples taken by at least 65 volunteers in the 2006 field season
- 894 juvenile crabs measured
- First instar crab were evident on every sampling date through September 5th. The first significant settlement occurred at all sampled sites on June 14th,
- The most attractive habitat for juvenile Dungeness crab seems to have a silt/sand component mixed with coarser material. One hypothesis why this may be desirable is to stabilize substrate and decrease energy expenditures involved in reburial. Vegetation may also increase the stability of the sediment as well as provide additional cover.
- Comparing the overall plot of size (carapace widths) to 2005, it seems to indicate that larger juveniles were rare in samples this year. A hypothesis may be that the larger juveniles were affected by the heat and desiccation of this unusual summer, forcing them to lower tide heights. Presence of somewhat larger molt shells at the water's edge suggests that at least some of these larger crabs survived but moved out of the sampling area.
- The tide heights where juvenile Dungeness crab reside can differ somewhat by site (as in 2005). Juvenile Dungeness crab density doesn't appear to correlate with tide height
- Habitat which *appears* suitable in terms of substrate, cover, and tide height may not be colonized equally between sites (as in 2005).
- Only 3 of 907 Dungeness crab sampled were above 30 mm CW (.33%), and these were all in May. Most likely these crabs had settled last summer.

Chet asked if Staff felt that these results would be viewed and taken seriously by professionals in the field. Wendy responded that volunteer versus professional monitoring is the topic of her thesis and that according to the literature, the fact that the program was co-developed as well as monitored (and the data compiled by) the WDFW, it will have credibility.

Staff mentioned the possibility of a presentation with Don Velasquez at the 2007 Georgia Basin Puget Sound Research Conference in Vancouver in March 2007. It was suggested that the MRC write a letter of support for Don should he want to attend the conference. Members felt it is

important to get the findings of the escape cord and the juvenile Dungeness crab survey out into the public eye. Heather mentioned submitting abstracts for the upcoming Conference. All agreed it was a good idea. Heather agreed to help staff in drafting abstracts. Alan agreed to edit the drafts. Staff said he will urge WDFW to publish the findings of the Juvenile Dungeness Crab survey.

Wendy presented the designs for the t-shirts that will be given to volunteers involved in MRC projects. The t-shirts will serve as educational/promotional items for the MRC under the NWSC grant. Logos to be displayed on the t-shirts were discussed and it was determined that the MRC logo will be included on all t-shirts, as well as logos of multiple involved partnering organizations.

### Escape Cord Study

Staff announced that the study is complete; Don Velasquez provided the initial results this afternoon. All cords have fully degraded except for the cotton cord with a nylon core.

Initial Results:

- Rigged crab pots put in on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at Port Townsend Marine Science Center
- All have degraded except the cotton/poly cord
- On average, the commercial configuration (hook under tension) takes slightly longer to degrade (by a week or two). The ring and panel configuration, on average, were equal in degradation rates.
- In general, hemp takes the least amount of time to degrade (4-7 weeks), then sisal (7 weeks), then jute (8-10 weeks), then cotton (8-13 weeks).

Staff will draft a report with degradation times for the Dungeness Crab Subcommittee. All MRC members were very encouraged by the results of this study. Chet noted that the results are particularly useful for the escape cord outreach program because now there is proof that a difference truly does exist between escape cord (biodegradable cotton) and other materials.

### Jetty Island United Way Day of Caring Event

Mary reported the success of the Day of Caring on a sunny September 15. Roughly 200 volunteers attended the Nearshore Cooperative's event. Creosote log flagging of the entire island was carried out by the Navy and Beach Watcher site leads. Weed removal and trash pickup were other activities of the day. Mary noted that loads of trash that washed up on the island were collected, including large plastic crates and Styrofoam. Wendy recalled that the newspaper article regarding the event said that it was the most removed trash ever removed in one day of clean up. Member discussed slight disappointment with the newspaper article and felt that it lacked depth and the feeling of community cooperation that the event demonstrated. Staff noted that many lessons were learned about how to best proceed with media outreach. It was noted, however, that Executive Reardon's newsletter article was much more representative of the cooperative effort of the Day of Caring. Wendy passed around a list of partners and donors to the event. Members inquired as to how the donors would be thanked. The possibility of decals or a newspaper article was discussed. Wendy will draft a summary of the event and include it in thank you letters to the donors. Stef reported on his conversation with Executive Reardon, who came to the event. The two discussed creosote, the NWSC, and the MRC, among

other things, and the reaction was very positive. Staff noted that Executive Reardon seemed to understand the big picture of the effort, as was evident in his speech at the event.

### NWSC Application

The deadline for the grant application for the 2006 NWSC funds is the end of this month. Staff reported that most of the application is complete. Although it has been on the back-burner, due to the status of the Day of Caring event as an important event for Snohomish County, Staff said that application will be completed as soon as possible.

### Shoreline Landowner Workshops- Fall 2006

Staff reported that Chrys Bertolotto, Linda Lyshall, Maria Calvi and the Nearshore Subcommittee are working to develop additional workshops for landowners in the northern portion of the county. Two workshops planned:

#### October 28, 2006- North County Fire Station

- 1) Coastal and Biological Processes
- 2) Port Susan Water Quality
- 3) Septic System Care
- 4) Reducing Landslide Risks
- 5) Shoreline Armoring and Soft Shore Armoring
- 6) Field Trip: Kayak Point

#### May/June 2007- Hat Island

##### Feeder Bluffs

- 1) General Processes
- 2) Slope Erosion Indicators
- 3) Minimizing erosion potential: Do's and Don'ts
- 4) Legal liabilities of landowners (uphill vs. downhill)

##### Water Conservation

- 1) Water Collection devices
- 2) Grey Water use

It was noted that the Hat Island workshop was delayed as advised by residents who had requested the workshop. Alan felt that the Juvenile Dungeness crab survey results could be brought up at the workshops; since it is evident that habitat is critical for the crab. Dawn Lawrence and Daryl Williams both mentioned that Staff could talk to them if contact information for residents on particular beaches is needed.

### Puget Sound Partnership

Linda Lyshall reported on the Puget Sound Partnership's (PSP) schedule. They plan to have their final Partnership recommendations (not the 2020 recommendations as originally envisioned) out for public comment from October 13-26. This will include recommendations for developing a new governance structure, outlining a public involvement strategy, funding strategy, and using science to inform policies and develop the 20/20 agenda. Currently, they are in the drafting stages of this document. Linda mentioned that the Governor feels that gaining public awareness throughout the next year is vital. Then, with more public support, it will be more fruitful to ask

for increased funds. However, there will be additional funds allocated to the Partnership this legislative session. It was noted that the co-Chairs of the Partnership are drafting recommendations independent of the Governor. Staff will send out current version of the document and public meeting notice.

There will have public comment meetings regarding the final Partnership recommendations in Bellingham (Oct 16), Bremerton (Oct 17), and Renton (Oct 24). Staff asked the MRC if they wanted to comment. Staff is checking to see how the County would like to facilitate this to ensure that MRC comments are incorporated. Staff mentioned the need to comment early in the comment period and passed around a sign-up list for everyone interested in helping on comments. Staff requested that those interested review the document and have a brainstorming meeting on Monday October 16<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday October 17<sup>th</sup>. Results from this brainstorming session would be taken to the October 18<sup>th</sup> MRC meeting when a final set of comments to the County Executive and Council will be approved by the MRC members.

*Interested member availability is as follows:*

10/16: Karen

10/17: Karen, Charlie, Dawn, Chet, Sally

Checking calenders: Mary, Jen and Daryl

## **Action Items**

### **Stillaguamish Tribe NOAA Marine Debris Removal Grant Support Letter**

Jen reported that she is applying for a Stillaguamish Tribe NOAA Marine Debris Removal Grant and is requesting a letter of support from the MRC. The grant money will be used to engage ROV technology in a deep water derelict gear removal in Port Susan. Jen noted that ROV technology is fairly new and this would be a pilot study. All agreed the MRC would be happy to present a support letter to Jen, commenting on the leadership of the Stillaguamish Tribe in the derelict gear removal. Staff was directed to submit a support letter for project.

## **Discussion Items**

### **Mussels as water quality indicators**

Chris Betchley reported that because mussels are filters, they have been shown across the country to be excellent water quality indicators. Chris briefed the MRC on the Mussel Watch program, noting it started in 1976 and is the longest contaminant monitoring program in the US coastal waters. Chris recommended a site she has located as a candidate site for inclusion in the MRC's Mussel Watch Program. The site is at the north end of the county near an agricultural outfall pipe. She has obtained permission from WDWF manager of that area, John Garrett, to use the site. The Water Quality subcommittee has been looking for an additional site to initiate the program in this winter. Known sites include Hat Island, the south end of Jetty Island, and Kayak Point Park. It was noted that Cavelero County Park is an excellent site for mussels as well.

## Skagit MRC joint meeting

Staff requested feedback regarding last month's MRC potluck meeting with the Skagit County MRC including: ideas about the potluck itself, the format, length of time, the helpfulness of the list of questions.

- Charlie felt it was absolutely a good idea to get MRCS together, maybe two counties at a time and then rotate. He felt that designating a 'steering committee' (possibly just one person from each MRC) to develop the meeting might make the format smoother in terms of exchanging information. Charlie also noted that he thought the presentations were great.
- Alan thought the fact that Lew, the new NWSC Director, was present was significant. He believes that the Snohomish County MRC needs an explicit relationship with the island county MRC and would value gathering at least once a year. He said that in terms of water quality, the two MRCs are inseparable, as our water becomes theirs and vice versa.
- Heather said that the MRCs used to work more closely together than they do now and that maybe MRC members making presentations at each others meetings would be beneficial. She also mentioned the possibility of presenting at the MRC conference in November.
- Chet felt that as long as the MRCs are exchanging information and ideas, the potluck doesn't necessarily need to happen more often. Even one-on-one exchange could be helpful.
- Staff mentioned that NWSC plans to develop a newsletter to facilitate the flow of information between MRCs.

## MRC Conference

Staff reported that 10 people are attending and mentioned that if members haven't reserved a room at the Rosario Resort, that they should do so by this Friday. The Resort will be opening rooms to outside reservations after Friday. Phone number is in the packet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> page. Staff added that in about a month we'll have a sense of how many people are total attending and can start to narrow down transportation issues. It's likely that a shuttle will be available, but members may want their own vehicle since public transportation is nonexistent in November. Staff said that the MRC grant may be stretched for reimbursements because of the excellent attendance last year and this year, so Staff asked members to carpool if at all possible. Daryl said the Tulalip Tribe might be able to provide a van for a number of members. Staff said the County could most likely do the same. Staff will likely have a car as will some of the local MRC residents to/from the airport.

A "mode of transportation to the conference" sheet was passed around to generate a list of members who might be able to car pool:

<u>Mode</u>	<u>Members</u>
Van	Daryl
Ferry (walk-on)	Heather, Kirby, Karen, Mary
Ferry (van or car)	Sally
Airplane	Dawn (needs ride from/to airport, 4:00 arrival)
Car	Stef
Unknown	Alan, Chrys, Charlie, Kent

## 2007 Snohomish County Budget Proposal

Staff reported that last year's County allocation to the MRC from the General Fund was \$30,000. This year SWM applied for \$135,000 to support the Marine Resources Program. Staff presented the reasoning for the request of additional funding:

- 1) Aggressive work program – enhanced scope and depth: the MRC has been encouraged (by Council) to continue its aggressive work program (i.e. not just do the minimal effort), and funding from NWSC and existing GF has been stretched as far as it can.
- 2) Ability to increase access and use external funding: Current Co. investment is leveraged 4:1; additional funding would provide capacity to obtain and manage more external funding for projects
- 3) Build Volunteer Capacity and Support: Build capacity for project and program implementation via support of WSU Beach Watcher program which provides crucial support for on-the-ground actions. This includes approximately \$16K support to volunteer training.
- 4) Strengthen outcomes through regional coordination and partnerships: with tribes, Puget Sound Partnership, Puget Sound Action Team, non-profits, other MRCs, Salmon Recovery, etc.
- 5) Solidify science to guide projects. Much of the key information needed to target improvements is not known (i.e. marine water quality, Dungeness crab)

Dawn reported that the meeting involving Kent and Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon (and also his assistant and budget person) regarding the MRC's budget request went very well. Executive Reardon was very interested and positive about the accomplishments of the MRC. There has been no word since the meeting, which Dawn noted she has been told is good news.

Staff reiterated that now Executive Reardon has had on-the-ground exposure to what we can do. Heather commented that she felt this would be a great opportunity for the Executive to really talk up the MRC, to let legislators know our accomplishments and our goals: "I added \$X to the MRC budget for this and this reason and we should do the same for WDFW, etc."

## **MRC Subcommittee Reports**

Dawn noted that subcommittees were productive last spring, and she would like them to regain momentum now that summer is at an end. She would like subcommittee leads to meet with Staff and herself to review goals. Wendy reported that she and Chet had drafted questionnaires regarding escape cord for crab pot retailers and manufacturers. The goal is to survey 10 retailers and 10 manufacturers. Copies of the questionnaires with business contact information were passed out to crab subcommittee members present. Changes to the documents should be discussed among the committee members.

## **Northwest Straits Commission Meeting Report**

Staff reported on the NWSC meeting, as Kent was absent.

- NWSF- A letter of inquiry was submitted to the Burning Foundation for a grant proposal in the amount of \$12,903 for derelict gear removal in Snohomish County in Port Gardner. NWSF has also requested funding from the Kongsgaard-Goldman Foundation.
- NWSC contract for a derelict fishing gear removal project liaison. There was one response to the Request for Qualifications and Quotations, which was advertised

on the Department of Ecology website, the Northwest Straits Commission web site and in the Daily Journal of Commerce: Tom Cowan

Dawn Lawrence asked for clarification regarding derelict gear removal. Jen Sevigny noted that the Stillaguamish Tribe and the MRC are doing the same type of work with derelict gear removal and using the same contractor (Jeff June), but in different locations (Stillaguamish Tribe –Port Susan, MRC – Port Gardner).

- Staff is developing a job description for a fourth position and determining where the budget would come from to fund the position. By the September meeting it is expected that a proposal will be put forward for the Commission to review.

**Presentation:** A “Wholistic” Approach to Planning and Implementing Conservation Projects and Outreach Efforts (Stef Frenzl, MRC Lead Staff)

Presentation was tabled due to lack of time. Staff read a story on the juvenile Dungeness Crab Habitat study and its benefit to the community. Members requested that staff submit the story to Mukilteo Beacon and the Everett Herald for publication.

**Addition:** The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Salmon Homecoming Festival

Daryl reported that the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Salmon Homecoming Festival will take place in September of 2007 and the involved partners are looking for ways to make it a special event, especially for kids. This year’s event opened up with “School Days,” a program that drew 600 students, including some from the Tulalip Tribe (the first tribal school to attend the event). However, the Festival is in need of kids events that last throughout the weekend. While the festival focuses on salmon, the partners are open to booths and activities involving all aspects of the Puget Sound. Daryl commented that the festival is great exposure for organizations. Previously, there has been no formal invitation to the NWSC, as the festival is in Seattle and a bit out of NWSC territory, but Daryl said that everyone is invited to attend. Alan mentioned that the NOAA staff has been putting more of an effort into outreach lately and might be able to help. Heather proposed that the NWSC purchase a “touch tank” system, for this event and others. It was mentioned that the Seattle Aquarium may have a portable touch tank to be borrowed. Heather and Jen recalled a fired glass display on which the salmon life cycle was displayed for kids to walk through. Staff noted that it would be within the means of the MRC grant to help facilitate the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Salmon Homecoming Festival. Dawn agreed and determined that members should continue to brainstorm and ideas will be further discussed at a later meeting.

**Adjourn 8:35PM**

# Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

## Meeting Summary

Wednesday, October 18, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Snohomish County East Administration Building  
Public Hearing Room, East  
3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201

### MRC Members Present

Dawn Lawrence, Chair  
Mary Cunningham  
Heather McCartney  
Karen Stewart  
Sally van Niel  
Chet Motekaitis  
Charles LaNasa  
Alan Mearns  
Daryl Williams  
Chrys Bertolotto

### MRC Members Absent

Kent Scudder - Excused  
Kirby Johnson - Not Excused  
Jen Sevigny - Excused

### Staff, Presenters and Others

Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Lead Staff  
Wendy Fisher, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Intern  
Linda Lyshall, Puget Sound Action Team  
John Houghton, Pentec Environmental

### Summary of Decisions

- September meeting minutes were approved.
- Puget Sound Partnership comments were approved.
- MRC support as partner of Snohomish Forum in Snohomish Estuary & Nearshore Hydrologic and Sediment Transport Modeling, Restoration Feasibility and Design was approved.

### Follow-Up Items

- Staff will discuss attending PSP Public Meeting with Dawn
- Staff will invite Chris Betchley to attend NWSC WQ Needs Workshop
- Staff will draft comment letter regarding county negotiating selling tideland, MRC comments will be made via email, letter will be sent ASAP
- Staff will submit Georgia Basin Puget Sound abstract
- Staff may host webcast of FERC workshop (regarding turbine technology) in December

### Upcoming Events

- Next MRC meeting: November 15, 6:30-8:30pm
- Puget Sound Partnership Public Meeting: October 24, 6-8pm @ Carco Theatre, Renton
- Soft Shore Armoring Evaluation Presentation: October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 @ the Everett Library.
- Port Susan Bay Shoreline and Bluff Workshop: Oct. 28, 9-3 @ North County Fire Station
- Georgia Basin Puget Sound Research Conference abstracts due November 1
- NWSC MRC Conference: November 3-4 @ the Rosario Resort, Orcas Island
- Safe Cosmetic Forums
  - Nov. 5, 2-5pm @ North Bellevue Community Center, Bellevue
  - Nov. 6, 6-9pm @ Swedish Medical Center, Seattle
  - Nov. 8, 6-9pm @ Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma
- NWSC Water Quality Research Needs Workshop, Nov. 15 @ UW

# Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

October 18, 2006

## Introductions, Agenda and Meeting Summaries

Dawn Lawrence convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

### Announcements

- Soft Shore Armoring Evaluation Presentation by Wendy Gerstle – October 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 at the Everett Library. Currently 27 people are registered. (City of Everett, Marysville, County, One person from Tribe, Everett Naval Station, Consulting firms, Adopt a Stream, NOAA, P4PS, WDFW). MRC members will contact Staff to confirm attendance. Linda Lyshall noted that this workshop would be excellent for planners. Heather McCartney recommended inviting the Ports and Ferry management to the workshop as well.
- The owner of the oil tanker that spilled more than 1,000 gallons of crude oil into Puget Sound's Dalco Passage on Oct. 13, 2004 will pay in full a \$540,000 fine levied by the Washington. The ship, which has since been decommissioned, belonged to a subsidiary of ConocoPhillips Co. The \$540,000 fine is the largest fine Ecology has ever issued for a spill in marine waters, and is the maximum possible penalty under state law.
- Ecology began delivery of oil-spill-response supplies around Puget Sound on Sept. 28, 2006. Ecology is pre-positioning spill response equipment at 60 critical locations around the state. Snohomish County locations include: North end of Port Susan, Tulalip Bay, Everett Waterfront, Mukilteo and Edmonds. Daryl Williams commented that the Tulalip Tribes has already trained six staff to use this equipment.
- The Juvenile Crab Abstract for Georgia Basin Puget Sound Research Conference draft has been written. Don Velasquez is working on a few additional analyses, and will be ready for submittal on Monday October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- NWSC Water Quality Research Needs Workshop is on Wednesday November 15, 2006 at the UW Center for Urban Horticulture, Isaacson Classroom; 3501 NE 41<sup>st</sup> Street, Seattle; 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The goal of the Water Quality Research Needs Workshop is to identify a list of priority scientific research needs related to pathogens, biotoxins, and water quality indicators in the Northwest Straits region. MRC determined Staff will invite Chris Betchley, interested citizen, to attend on behalf of MRC.
- Safe Cosmetics Forum: 3 Dates:
  - Nov 5<sup>th</sup>, 2:00-5:00 at the North Bellevue Community Center in Bellevue,
  - November 6<sup>th</sup> at the Swedish Medical Center at 6:00-9:00pm in Seattle, and
  - November 8<sup>th</sup> 6-9pm Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma.
  - RSVP to Margaret Shield, Toxic-Free Legacy Coalition:  
online at [www.toxicfreelegacy.org](http://www.toxicfreelegacy.org) or call 206-632-1545x123.
- Puget Sound Partnership Public Meeting- October 24, 6 to 8 p.m., Carco Theatre, Renton, Washington. It was noted that presence at the meetings seems to carry more clout than writing a letter alone. Staff and Chair will discuss the possibility of Staff attending this meeting.
- Reminder: NWSC MRC Conference is on November 3-4 at the Rosario Resort on Orcas Island.
- We're finalizing T-shirts for volunteers and will hopefully have a few to display for the conference.
- Alan Mearns announced that he will be attending a Puget Sound Monitoring Workshop in Tacoma. The conference will provide an overview of "how to" put together long-term monitoring programs based on successful programs in California. People for Puget Sound and PSAT will be in attendance, among 65 other sponsors.

- Chrys Bertolotto announced that the Shore Stewards Program is up and running for folks who live near the beach. She explained the requirements for the program and showed the sign and window decals (decals were offered to all).

## **Public Comment**

- Linda Lyshall stated that the Georgia Basin Puget Sound Conference is her favorite conference and that she highly recommends abstract submissions as well as encourages MRC members to attend the conference. Alan Mearns noted that he attends every year to talk about the Mussel Watch Program.
- John Houghton announced that the Port of Everett will be dredging this winter. Dredged material will be moved to Jetty Island. This will be done to re-nourish the berm and enlarge the South end of the island to create a more natural slope; all the work is strictly restoration. A public hearing will be held on October 19, 2006. There has also been talk of starting a volunteer stewardship program to monitor and maintain the habitat on Jetty Island. Chrys Bertolotto noted that the Nearshore Cooperative would be interested in the program.

## **Project Updates**

### 2006 NWSC Supplemental Funds and Grant Amendments

The proposal was submitted last month. Ginny Broadhurst told Staff yesterday that she has not had a chance to review it yet.

### Jetty Island Creosote Log Removal & Media Outreach (Mary Cunningham)

Staff showed footage of creosote log removal, which featured Ginny Broadhurst (NWSC) and Stef Frenzl. MRC members wanted to know the process of the being contacted. Staff gave input to the NWSC, and NWSC developed the press release. NWSC sent the press release to local papers and TV news stations. KIRO 7 contacted Ginny, and came to shoot the helicopters removing derelict gear and interview Ginny and Stef. Staff noted that Chris Legeros mentioned that the way the press release was written was what caught his eye, and what made him decide to air the story. Wendy is working on a "how to" display on writing press releases, along with hopes of having a repeating video of the news story on a laptop.

### Alternative Shoreline Stabilization Evaluation Project Presentation; 2007 REET Funds

SWM received \$20,000 in funds from the Real Estate Excise Tax fund to implement a soft shore armoring project this upcoming year. At this time, Staff doesn't know how much of the \$20,000 will be used for feasibility vs. implementation. MRC may be able to request funding from the Puget Sound Alliance to supplement these funds to put projects on the ground.

### South Port Susan Bay Workshop (Chrys Bertolotto)

There will be a shoreline resident workshop offering practical advice for homeowners in Port Susan on 10/28/06 (Saturday) entitled "Where have all the Wildlife Gone" at the North County Fire Station. Chrys informed that the Stillaguamish Tribe will be handing out free plants to each participant. Sample flyers were passed out. RSVP required please.

### University Sound Partnership (Chrys Bertolotto)

The University Sound Partnership would anchor and fund WSU Beach Watchers (in all counties) and the UW Sea Grant. Chrys requested a letter from the MRC in support of the University Sound Partnership's request to incorporate funding in the Puget Sound Partnership recommendations. Staff informed that a support statement has been made within the MRC's Puget Sound Partnership comments (on page 5), which will be sent in and also incorporated into the NWSC PSP comments.

### Alliance for Puget Sound Shorelines (Mary Cunningham)

Mary summarized the meeting that she, Staff and Linda Lyshall attended regarding the newly organized Alliance for Puget Sound Shorelines, which is made up of People for Puget Sound, The Trust for Public Land and The Nature Conservancy. The Alliance will be fundraising up to \$80 million with the following goals: Create 10 new shoreline parks or natural areas, Restore 100 miles of Puget Sound Shorelines, Enhance protection of 1,000 miles of Puget Sound shoreline through strengthened policies, effective implementation and improved accountability. Staff noted the Alliance is looking to fund “ready to go” projects involving acquisitions with regards to public access and also for partners. There was discussion on the various Puget Sound groups; Linda informed that this alliance was spearheaded by a grant from the Russell Family Foundation.

### PUD Tidal Energy Project (Daryl Williams)

Daryl reported that the PUD Tidal Energy Permit has been put on hold. PUD is proposing eight sites for Tidal Technology. The sites would not be developed right away, but rather PUD would like to reserve some of them for future use. FERC usually licenses the first permit in an area and will do extensive research regarding the turbine’s effects on fish and marine life. The three year permit PUD has filed for is only a study permit. City commissioners will be contracting with UW to conduct studies. Impacts could affect marine mammals, such as whales, that may be harmed by the acoustics of turbines and no longer come into Puget Sound. Much will be dependent on the number and size of such turbines. Studies are being conducted around the world (including Canada), but are far from complete. Concerning eventual permitting/licensing of the technology, public entities have first priority. The tidal energy machinery (a three year old technology) would range in size (depths reached range from 6-75 meters) and could include any of three basic designs: underwater windmill (with fish screen), underwater turbine, and/or underwater helical turbine. Daryl has been following the tidal energy proposals for the Tulalip Tribe. He developed a comprehensive website: [www.pstidalenergy.org](http://www.pstidalenergy.org). Chet noted that tidal energy is very exciting as a future source of energy. Alan commented that impact studies are important because it has been found that wind power in the Midwest has the propensity to change wind currents, and thus climate. Likewise, underwater turbines have the capacity to take energy from the currents. Daryl was happy to report that PUD seems to be taking environmental impacts into consideration.

## **Action Items**

### Puget Sound Partnership Comment letter

Letter was reviewed by Staff (see attached letter with amendments included). A few suggestions were made and members were asked to email Staff with formal comments by the next morning if so inclined. The MRC approved the comment letter for submittal to the County Executive, and to the Puget Sound Partnership. The MRC directed Staff to send the letter to the Northwest Straits Initiative as well.

### Snohomish Estuary and Nearshore Hydrologic and Sediment Transport Modeling, Restoration Feasibility and Design

Staff reported that the Snohomish Forum (Forum) has requested the support for the Snohomish Estuary & Nearshore Hydrologic and Sediment Transport Modeling, Restoration Feasibility and Design and approval to list MRC as a partner.

The Nearshore Shoreline Restoration project is a critical first step for partners working on nearshore shoreline restoration north of the Snohomish River Estuary. At present, much of the baseline information on the nearshore has been collected, excepting hydrologic and sediment transport modeling. Collating the data in hand with the modeling will result in site specific projects to the 30% design level, which will then

be directed at meeting Marine Resources Committee and Snohomish Forum ecosystem goals for the nearshore. The project will also complete construction of one pilot project (such as soft-shore armoring). Without this funding for design and a demonstration project, the Snohomish Basin will be behind in meeting its ten-year targets. We propose that this project will utilize staff resources among the partners and potential funding from the Northwest Straits Commission/Foundation and propose to build upon partnerships already started among the Snohomish Forum, Tulalip Tribes, Snohomish County and the Marine Resources Committee. Funding this project will result in significant progress on meeting our collective ecosystem goals.

The Forum is not requesting funding from the MRC- only to add the MRC as a named partner in support of the project, and to receive comments and recommendations as the project develops. The Forum is requesting \$350,000 from Washington State Legislature through the Puget Sound Partnership. Funding could be funneled either through SRF Board, WDFW or the Leadership Council. Staff distributed a chart describing the Forum's proposal. The MRC agreed that this project could produce valuable data for MRC restoration projects, and approved the request to add the MRC as a project partner under the terms described above. The Snohomish Forum will give a detailed presentation at a future MRC meeting.

## **Discussion Items**

### MRC Conference (Staff)

Travel Sign up sheet was passed around with the knowledge that carpool drivers include: Daryl, Linda, Stef.

Ferry walk-ons must take ferry at 12:05 where a shuttle will be ready for pick on Orcas Island. The shuttle will then drive passengers to field trip and to the resort. On Saturday, shuttle will leave Rosario at 4:15pm for the 5:10 ferry. Staff will complete coordination of transportation logistics next week.

### County Executive's Proposed MRC Budget (Staff)

The County Executive's proposed General Fund budget for the MRC is \$80,000. Dawn has asked what the next steps are for requesting additional funds from Council. Staff suggested that the MRC could schedule a meeting with Council, thank them for their support and interest in having the MRC keep them abreast of the Executive's budget, provide them with Exec's budget (\$80,000 and compare with original request), and make their request. The MRC could also offer to provide additional information on how the MRC would use the additional funding upon Council's request. Staff also recommended sending a strong thank you letter to the County Executive for his support, as many other programs funded by the General Fund took cuts in funding this year.

### Snohomish County shoreline property sale to BNSF

Karen Stewart announced that Snohomish County Parks Department is negotiating a sale of County-owned tidelands in Mukilteo to Burlington Northern San Francisco (BNSF) to build an additional Sound Transit rail line. BNSF only needs a small footprint for the line, but the County Parks Department doesn't want to be left with ownership of tide lands with no development potential. Public access would be severely limited with the privatization of all of Snohomish County's tideland parcels (see *Waterfront Titles in The State of Washington* publication, provided by Karen).

Mary Cunningham noted that the negotiation is currently on hold to allow the City of Everett to comment. Mary is in the revision stages of a letter from the City of Everett. The City of Everett may request that should the County decide to sell parcels in Everett, the City be made aware so that the parcels can be purchased by the City for public use. Mary also spoke with DNR who does not have the money to purchase the parcels from the Snohomish County, but would gladly take them donated.

MRC requested that Staff draft a letter for Dawn Lawrence to review, make changes and submit describing the role of the MRC as an advisory committee to the County, and request that the County only sell the required footprint to BNSF. If the County doesn't want to hold on to the remaining parcels, the MRC recommends transferring ownership to the cities or another entity which will not restrict public access or limit restoration potential. The letter should tie in the goals of the MRC and note that, should the land remain public, there are opportunities for beach enhancement and restoration, much like the MRC and Snohomish County's work in progress.

MRC 5-Year Strategic Plan (Staff)

Tabled due to time constraints

Subcommittee Meetings (Dawn Lawrence)

Tabled due to time constraints

**Northwest Straits Commission Meeting Report (Staff)**

The Northwest Straits Foundation will receive NOAA funding in the amount of \$111,500 for creosote log removal operations in Puget Sound.

Staff informed that the Northwest Straits Foundation's Growth and Development Committee is looking for 5 new members to help develop a fundraising strategic plan.

**Adjourn 8:30PM**

# Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

## Draft Meeting Summary

Wednesday, November 15, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Snohomish County East Administration Building  
Public Hearing Room, East  
3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201

### MRC Members Present

Dawn Lawrence, Chair  
Mary Cunningham  
Heather McCartney  
Karen Stewart  
Sally van Niel  
Charles LaNasa  
Daryl Williams  
Chrys Bertolotto  
Kirby Johnson

### MRC Members Absent

Kent Scudder - Excused  
Alan Mearns - Excused  
Chet Motekaitis - Excused  
Jen Sevigny - Excused

### Staff, Presenters and Others

Wendy Fisher, Snohomish County SWM, MRC Intern  
John Houghton, Pentec Environmental  
Chris Betchley, Citizen  
Donald Velasquez, WDFW  
Lincoln Loehr, Citizen  
Dhira Dale, Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement  
Task Force  
Lew More, NWSC

### Summary of Decisions

- October meeting minutes were approved.
- MRC will not comment on Ocean Policy Work Group draft recommendations.

### Follow-Up Items

- Staff will email the Ocean Policy Work Group recommendations to Don and Karen
- Staff will email EPA Indicators website link to all who attended meeting and invitation for Tidal Energy Webcast
- Staff will only bring agendas to the meetings; members are responsible for minutes.
- Stef will call Dawn with further details regarding the Salmon Forum request. An email will be sent to MRC members within the next week or so with the results of this conversation; members will reply with decision based on this information.

### Upcoming Events

- Next MRC meeting: January 21, 6:30-8:30pm - - NO meeting in December
- Salmon Homecoming Forum: Nov. 16, 8-4 @ UW HUB
- FERC Tidal Energy Webcast: Dec. 6. 10-2 @ Snohomish County Room 3B05
- Reardon/Sievers Volunteer Appreciation Reception: Dec. 18, 5-7 @ Snohomish County Public Meeting Rooms 1 & 2
- MRC subcommittee meetings: early January
- NWSC Retreat: January
- MRC retreat: January or February

# **Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)**

## **November 15, 2006**

### **Introductions, Agenda and Meeting Summaries**

Staff convened the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Dawn Lawrence, Chair, arrived and led the meeting shortly thereafter.

### **Announcements**

- Daryl Williams announced that the Salmon Homecoming Forum is tomorrow (November 16)
- Members should have received, or should receive shortly, an invitation to the Reardon and Sievers Volunteer Appreciation Reception on Monday, December 18th, 2006- 5:00-7:00, Snohomish County Public Meeting Rooms 1& 2
- The Ocean Policy Work Group draft recommendations for Washington State's Ocean comment period is now through the end of November. It was determined that the MRC will not comment, however Don Velasquez and Karen Stewart requested a copy of the document.
- Room 3B05 has been reserved on Dec 6, 2006 from 10-2 for the FERC Tidal Energy webcast. Mary Cunningham and Daryl Williams are interested in attending. Staff will email an invitation with the details.
- San Juan MRC is looking for a new MRC Coordinator.
- The EPA has created the website <http://epa.gov/region10/psgb/indicators/> with indicators of health of Puget Sound such as Population Health, Urbanization and Forest change, Solid Waste and Recycling, River, Stream and Lake Quality, Shellfish, Air Quality, Marine Species at Risk, Toxics in Harbor Seals, Marine Water Quality. Staff will email link of the website to all attending the meeting.
- A dead juvenile male fin whale was discovered among pilings in the Port of Everett on Wednesday Nov 8th. The whale was likely killed and brought into the area by a ship. The whale had also been entangled and was in poor condition even before it was struck. Biologists with Cascadia Research examined the whale on 9 November while it floated in an area off the Port of Everett and the U.S. Navy Homeport.
- Orcas have been seen around Edmonds recently. 2 breached next to the ferry last week.
- Possibly the last MRC meeting for Wendy. She has been instrumental in the juvenile crab project, escape cord degradation study, escape cord education & outreach project, making displays, t-shirts, and more. We hope to keep her longer!
- No MRC meeting next month- Staff wishes you all a happy holidays.

### **Public Comment**

- Dhira Dale commented that she will be attending meetings representing the Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force and also Americorps. She mentioned that if anyone should need volunteers for projects, Americorps is ready to help. Don Velasquez commented that Americorps helped greatly with the Juvenile Dungeness crab study and is a good group of workers.
- Lincoln Loehr mentioned that he has a 30 second presentation for the end of the meeting.
- Lew Moore commented that a lot is happening with the Puget Sound Partnership. He highlighted the cohesion in the group and said that it looks like everyone is going to sign on. Support for the MRCs has been on the table at the partnership discussion. There is talk of creating MRC-like entities in the South Sound. Daryl Williams mentioned that the South Sound is looking at a few different frameworks and models for marine programs. One of which is the NWSC-MRC model

because it is felt that the concept of being a “creature of the county,” connected but not consumed by government issues, is very effective. Kirby Johnson noted that of the MRC counties, Snohomish County is more like Pierce and King with bureaucratic issues at the onset. Daryl Williams said that originally the NWSC had refused to expand at the risk of losing effectiveness, however if there are only two counties that want in, it wouldn’t make sense to force them to create their own framework. Lew agreed that the challenge for NWSC is to help with that process while maintaining integrity of MRCs. The partnership is recommending an annual budget of \$10 million, about \$1 million of which would go the NWSC. However, this is the recommendation; it is up to the legislature to appropriate. The conversation NWSC and MRCs need to have is how to expand without burning out. Lew Moore mentioned that the NWSC is participating in data collection with other agencies through ecosystem projects. The NWSC retreat is in January and comments from MRCs, particularly regarding budget, are welcome. Dawn Lawrence mentioned that she will be having a meeting with Staff during which they will discuss issues to bring up at the retreat.

- Chris Betchley noted that at the water quality meeting she attended, it was mentioned that the MRC/NWSC has not been published enough and they need to get out in the public view. It was also said that other organizations would like to be involved with the MRC. Heather McCartney recommended that those who wish to learn more about publications should contact Sasha Horst at the Northwest Straits Commission (<mailto:shorst@nwstraits.org>).
- Dawn Lawrence inquired about the Juvenile Dungeness crab study volunteer t-shirts. Staff noted that they are ready for pick up; Don Velasquez kindly modeled his shirt.

## **Project Updates**

### MRC Meeting Agenda and Meeting Summaries

Staff reported that multiple comments have been received from MRC members about the excessive use of paper for these meetings. It was determined that MRC members will bring their own copies of the meeting summaries to decrease the amount of wasted paper. Staff will continue to bring meeting agendas, as the preliminary agenda is often times changed before the meeting.

### 2006 NWSC Supplemental Funds and Grant Amendments

Dawn Lawrence reported that we are still waiting to hear from Ginny Broadhurst regarding request for additional funds.

### South Port Susan Bay Workshop (Chrys Bertolotto)

Chrys Bertolotto stated that about 40 people attended the workshop and the response was positive. She mentioned that on the evaluations, many participants indicated that they would actually change personal actions because of this workshop. Daryl Williams noted that he attended part of the workshop and felt that the presentations included good information that shoreline landowners can use.

### Puget Sound Partnership Comment Letter

The comment letter was submitted on time and received multiple compliments. Staff felt that we asserted ourselves as a committee worthy of respect. Staff was told by the consultant working with the Puget Sound Partnership who read all the comments that she included ours in the “short-list” of those deserving special attention. Dawn Lawrence and Staff thanked all who participated, and especially to Alan Mearns who helped draft the science portion of the letter.

### Snohomish County shoreline property sale to BNSF (Dawn Lawrence)

Dawn Lawrence read letter from BNSF, which stated that BNSF will be selling only those parcels necessary for Sound Transit expansion, per the MRC request. Staff noted that is a great example of how the MRCs work is making a difference.

### 2006 MRC Conference (Dawn Lawrence)

All who attended sessions (marine birds, oil spill prevention and response, citizen monitoring and climate change) felt that they were excellent. It was noted that members were surprised to learn that non-profits are involved with oil spill response. Chrys reported that the NWSC is looking to publish citizen monitoring.

Note that Sasha Horst at NWSC has posted all of the PowerPoint presentations and handouts to the Ecology ftp server. This public folder will be available until December 29, after which you can contact Sasha to receive a copy of any or all of the files.

Please be aware that some of these are very large files - if members prefer to have a disk copy sent, please inform Staff. <ftp://www.ecy.wa.gov/NWSC-2006%20Conference%20materials/>

Members, please complete the online survey. It can be found at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=199502842414>.

*REIMBURSEMENTS*- Staff requested that reimbursement forms be turned in by the end of the evening.

### Water Quality Research Needs Workshop (Chris Betchley)

Chris Betchley reported that many interests were represented at the meeting. The need for physical modeling at many scales was mentioned, which would enable MRCs to look at water quality needs for their area in general and then also at specific locales. In terms of Hazardous Algal Blooms (HAB), a *Fibrous* workshop is needed as there are many unknowns (for example, where are the algae coming from?). It is thought that the bio-toxin increase is due to global climate change. The NWSC called for enhanced monitoring, data mining and data synthesis; they are looking to publish citizen data.

## **Action Items**

### Department of Ecology- Watershed Protection & Restoration Grant Proposal

\$50,000 in additional funding has become available from DOE to assist the Watershed Groups. The Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum would like to use a portion of these funds to fund a nearshore work group session for Nearshore Cooperative members to develop a strategic nearshore action plan for the next few years. The grant would include funding that would pay for Forum Staff, Chrys' time as Beach Watcher Coordinator, and MRC Staff's involvement in meetings, prep, coordination, etc. The grant would also pay for a professional facilitator to help in this process.

- The final deliverable would be an action plan that identifies projects (capital, outreach, etc) already occurring or planned to occur among Nearshore Cooperative members in the next few years along the Snohomish County nearshore. As directed in the request for proposals, projects would be identified as relating to and prioritized for the nearshore in the areas of toxics, water quality, habitat and other areas as identified in the National Estuary Program, PSAT's Puget Sound Management Plan, and the recommendations of the Puget Sound Partnership. We will also identify areas for project overlap and partnership, identify gaps, and develop a prioritization of these projects as it

pertains to salmon recovery in the Snohomish River watershed. Additionally, we will determine a process for empowering the MRC and the Forum to focus cooperation on projects when appropriate.

- As its ultimate objective, this project would be a first step in better coordinating nearshore actions with those of salmon recovery, both of which must rely on one another to achieve our respective and cumulative goals.
- The Salmon Recovery Forum requests the MRC's partnership in this effort by including the MRC Staff and any interested MRC members in this project.
- MRC Staff Time anticipated- Total 33 hours
  - 10 hours workshop prep (Stef, intern and/or Planner position)
  - 5 hours obtaining project plans from Nearshore Cooperative members (Stef)
  - 2 hours facilitator meeting prep (Stef)
  - 16 hours workshop attendance (Stef)

Members determined that the outcome of the MRC's involvement in the forum would be worthwhile, as it would integrate shoreline and stream objectives. However, they want to make certain that staff time is not taken from previously determined MRC projects. Also, should the MRC partner with the forum, members want to ensure input is collected on MRC's agenda and that original ideas of the MRC are not displaced or altered. Stef will call Dawn with further details. An email will be sent to MRC members within the next week or with the results of this conversation; members will reply with decision based on this information.

## **Discussion Items**

### MRC 5-Year Strategic Plan/Retreat

Staff hopes to hold the retreat in late January or early February, and it will consist of a one-day retreat. We received funding for a facilitator to help us finalize the strategic plan. Staff would like to meet with MRC Subcommittees to develop a list of long-term, mid-term and short-term goals and objectives for each subcommittee before the retreat. Subcommittee meetings will occur in early January as Dawn Lawrence feels that this will be the most productive time to hold them. Meeting will help us focus our work with the facilitator.

Staff is looking for a location to hold the retreat. The MRC chose not to include funding for room rental in the NWSC budget, and so we need to find a room with relatively low rental rates.

Options include:

1. Adopt a Stream Foundation Room- \$300 for a day
2. Everett Community College Room
3. Rosehill
4. Legion Park

### MRC Elections & Terms (Dawn Lawrence)

Dawn Lawrence reported that she is stepping down as chair and is considering running for the vice-chair position. Dawn mentioned that Kent Scudder's resignation is forthcoming. The MRC is looking for nominations and people willing to come forward to fill the Chair, Vice Chair and NWSC Representative positions. Staff's list of member terms was circulated and deemed to be correct. Kirby Johnson mentioned that it is a shame to lose Kent and that the MRC needs to think about ways in which to keep resigned members connected. Dawn Lawrence suggested a "MRC alumni" as part of the program. On that note, Daryl Williams mentioned that participants of subcommittees are not required to be members of the MRC, so that could be a potential role of alum.

## **Presentation: Juvenile Dungeness crab survey, 2005-2006 (Don Velasquez)**

### Questions researched

- Where is the juvenile habitat in Snohomish County marine waters? Which do they prefer?
- When do juveniles settle and reside in this habitat? Is it comparable to areas of North Puget Sound in terms of density and timing?
- How does growth proceed in this habitat and when do most juveniles move to habitat characteristic of adults?

### Methods for 2005

- Two sites chosen for the preliminary study: 1) Kayak Park and 2) the Mukilteo Barge/Rail Site.
- For each sample, screen the habitat within a 0.25 m<sup>2</sup> quadrat.
- Take 3 samples from each tide height from +4 to the extreme low.
- Take the 3 samples at random on a 10 meter tape from the transect center.
- Take photos of each quadrat sampled. This enables verification of habitat description.
- Tally the crab species and obtain carapace widths for the juvenile Dungeness crabs encountered.
- Make sampling visits on a biweekly basis.

### Results 2005

- The tide heights where juvenile Dungeness crabs reside can differ somewhat by site. No clear trend when examining tide height alone.
- Habitat which *appears* suitable (substrate, cover, and tide height) may not be colonized equally between sites. Kayak exhibited much lower crab densities than Mukilteo overall and vegetated silt-sand produced higher densities than the mixed substrates there.
- No crabs were detected above a +3 at Mukilteo or Kayak. Because of this, only tide heights +3 and below were sampled in 2006.
- 15 of the 192 Dungeness crabs sampled were above 20 mm CW (7.8%). 5 of 192 Dungeness crabs sampled were above 30 mm CW (2.6%). Those >30 mm were found in **July and August**.
- First instar crabs were evident on every sampling date except for September 15th.
- While silt-sand and eelgrass may be important for juvenile Dungeness crab in Snohomish county, higher densities may occur in the mixed substrates with macroalgae.

### Methods 2006

- Monitoring sites included Kayak Point, Mukilteo, Picnic Point, Edmonds, and Hermosa Beach
- Training volunteers occurred mid-April with intensive sampling beginning in May
- Volunteer commitments designed to accommodate less days per person, huge volunteer effort
- Each site was assigned one or two site leads
- Monitors moved between sites to ensure consistency with written protocol and assist sampling
- Sampling occurred biweekly from May through September

### Results 2006

- The tide heights where juvenile Dungeness crabs reside can differ somewhat by site (as in 2005). No clear trend examining tide height alone.
- As in 2005, highest densities at Kayak Point were in silt-sand with vegetation whereas at Mukilteo highest densities were in mixed substrates.
- Only 4 of the 862 Dungeness crabs sampled were above 20 mm CW (.46%). 3 of these were also above 30 mm CW, and these were all found in **May**. Most likely these 3 crabs had settled as first instars last summer.

- First instar crab were evident on every sampling date from June 14th through September 5th (the first significant settlement was detected at **all** sampled sites on June 14th), This agrees well with first instar data from the 2005 sampling.

#### Overall findings regarding Juvenile Dungeness crab preferred habitat

- **The most attractive habitats for juvenile Dungeness crab have a silt/sand component mixed with coarser material or vegetation.** Other habitat types are much less attractive to juvenile crab.
- The silt/sand component is desirable for the crab to burrow for refuge. Burrowing into the substrate is a behavior which persists into adulthood.
- Coarse material and vegetation may be desirable because these tend to stabilize substrate and prevent wave energy from exposing the juveniles. These components may also provide additional cover.

#### How WDFW plans to use data from this project

State law requires that any person, organization, or government agency wishing to conduct any construction activity that will use, divert, obstruct, or change the bed or flow of state waters must do so under the terms of a permit called the Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) which is issued by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). State waters include all marine waters and fresh waters of the state, except those watercourses that are entirely artificial, such as irrigation ditches, canals and storm water run-off devices. The WDFW Habitat Program evaluates applications and issues Hydraulic Projects Approvals.

The results of the 2005 and 2006 sampling of juvenile Dungeness crab will be written up and incorporated into documents supplied to the WDFW Habitat Program for evaluating Hydraulic Projects Applications (HPAs). If possible, the information will be used to update and finalize a draft Priority Habitat and Species (PHS) document for Dungeness crab. PHS documents and maps are also made available to local governments outside WDFW to foster compliance with the Growth Management Act and develop oil spill prevention and response measures.

Based on available literature and consultations with other local biologists, Habitat biologists typically apply conditions on approved projects so negative impacts are reduced or avoided to key habitats and species. These conditions involve timing of work, construction methods, allowable activities, etc. Because a variety of habitats and species must be considered and protected, compromises must often be made.

Where impacts are to habitats or particular species are inevitable, some estimate of that impact can be made and mitigation arranged. The most severe impacts involve direct damage or loss of habitat. These result in continuous loss of fish and wildlife production. Less severe impacts involve direct killing of fish and wildlife which are usually a one-time loss.

For more information on the juvenile Dungeness crab study, or a copy of the slideshow, contact: Stef Frenzl - [stef.frenzl@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:stef.frenzl@co.snohomish.wa.us) or Don Velasquez - [velasdev@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:velasdev@dfw.wa.gov)

Lincoln Loehr presented Don Velasquez with a mug he created with a crab impression. Heather McCartney also presented Don with a gift for his efforts.

## **Adjourn 8:45pm**