

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, January 16, 2008, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Snohomish County East Administration Building
Public Hearing Room, East
3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201

<p>MRC Members Present Mary Cunningham, Chair Dawn Lawrence, Vice Chair Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Representative Chrys Bertolotto Daryl Williams Jen Sevigny Chet Motekaitis Jerry Masters</p> <p>MRC Members Absent Thomas Hoban - excused</p>	<p>Staff, Presenters and Others Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM Amy Johnson, Snohomish County SWM, WCC IP Christine Betchley, Citizen Alan Mearns, NOAA Jon Houghton, Pentec Environmental John F. Boettner, Ecosystems First Sean Edwards, Snohomish County SWM</p>
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Summary of Decisions

- October 2007 MRC meeting summary was approved.

Follow-Up Items

- Strategic plan prep materials will be sent out to members before the interviews in March.
- A SWOT analysis will be completed during the March MRC meeting.
- MRC Members are encouraged to discuss the work of the MRC and gather support for the Port Susan MSA with council members.

Upcoming Events

- Ways of Whales Workshop, January 19, 2008, 9-4pm, Coupeville Middle School, Whidbey Island.
- WSU Beach Watcher and Snohomish County MRC Starlight Beach Walks: Olympic Beach in Edmonds, January 19, 2008 at 7pm; Kayak Point in Stanwood, February 17, 2008 at 7pm.
- Clean Water District Public Meeting, January 24, 2008, 6-9pm.
- WSU Extension Face the Nation Session, January 30, 2008, 5-8pm, McCollum Park, Everett,
- Arlington Eagle Festival, February 9, 2008, starts at 10am.
- MRC Strategic Planning Retreat: Saturday March 29, 2008, 9-4pm.

Introductions, Agenda & Meeting Summaries, and Announcements:

Mary Cunningham convened the meeting at 6:35 p.m. The 10-17-07 MRC meeting summary was presented and approved. Announcements include:

- Thank you to Chris Betchley for her hard work as a temporary associate planner for the MRC. Her position ended on January 11, 2008, and we will miss her greatly.
- WSU Beach Watcher Coordinator for Skagit County was hired and started on January 2, 2008. This means Chrysta can be full time in Snohomish County.
- Celebrate Amy Johnson's birthday (Saturday January 19, 2008) by attending these two events with her: Ways of Whales Workshop, featuring presentations about the Southern Resident Killer Whales, held at Coupeville Middle School from 9-4pm, and the Starlight Beach Walk at Olympic Beach in Edmonds from 7-8:30pm.
- Snohomish and Skagit County WSU Beach Watcher Training has been scheduled for the spring of 2008. The application deadline for the training is February 22.
- WSU Extension is holding a Face the Nation Session about climate change on January 30, 2008 from 5-8pm at McCollum Park.
- The Clean Water District met today in a round table discussion to talk about shellfish certification and the process in South Skagit Bay in Port Susan. The next CWD meeting will be held on January 24, 2008 from 6-9pm at Peace Lutheran Church, Silvana.
- Water Quality Investigations and Improvement Projects at Warm Beach did not receive funding through the Centennial Grant Application proposed by SnoCo SWM.
- Sean Edwards from Snohomish County has copies of the State of the Stilly Report. If interested in having a copy, please contact Sean at sean.edwards@co.snohomish.wa.us, or (425) 388-3464 x4669. The report is also available online: http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/Public_Works/Divisions/SWM/Work_Areas/Water_Quality/CWD/StateoftheStillyReport.htm
- Mark Stamey, a mitigation specialist from Snohomish County, has expressed interest in helping out the MRC. He has a Masters in Marine Affairs from the UW, has done extensive eelgrass studies, and has worked with the Mid Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group. Stef would like to see Mark work on the detailed eelgrass mapping.
- The Puget Sound Partnership will be hosting a series of three meetings about the Action Agenda development: 1st meeting, January 30, 2nd meeting, last week in February, and 3rd meeting, fourth week in April. Linda Lyshall will send out official announcements on these meeting times next week. Anyone is welcome to attend, but must RSVP by contacting Linda at linda.lyshall@psp.wa.gov.
- Linda Lyshall has arranged for Steve Sakuma and Gary Rowe to attend next month's MRC meeting. They're coming to learn about the MRC's goals and work program.
- Alan received results for 2006 Mussel Watch data, which includes our sites. The highest concentrations of PBDEs in mussel tissues occurred at the jetty of Brackett's Landing in Edmonds, Snohomish County, WA. What this data means is not known yet, and Alan would like to compare with 2004 to determine if there is a pattern at Edmonds.
- Arlington Eagle Festival is scheduled for February 9, 2008. Outreach component still needs assistance, so let Jen Sevingy know if you're interested.

Public Comment:

None.

Action Items:
MRC Elections & Terms

Position Chair

Nominated: Jerry Masters
Elected: Jerry Masters

Position Vice Chair

Nominated: Dawn Lawrence
Elected: Dawn Lawrence

Position NWSC Representative

Nominated: Kirby Johnson
Elected: Kirby Johnson
Alternates Elected: Thomas Hoban and Stef Frenzl

2008 MRC Budget & Work Plan Revisions

County Council decreased the County's General Fund contribution to the Marine Resources Program by \$50,000 in 2008. Stef Frenzl spent many weeks developing a revised draft of the 2008 budget given the resources we currently have and the work plan priorities given by the MRC in Spring 2007. Stef met with Mary, Dawn and Jerry two weeks ago and discussed the proposed changes, and included their feedback into this revised budget.

Changes to Budget

Eliminate funding for:

- Grant writing & partnership development
- Contingency funds
- Escape cord for 2008 (Amy has some prepaid time allotted).
- Crab Regulations

Reduction in funding for:

- Landowner Workshops & Tech Assistance
- Kayak Point
- WSU Beach Watchers

We need approval from the MRC about the budget revisions.

- The budget was accepted as written. No changes needed.
- In light of this recent budget cut, it's important to continue contact with council members and educate them about the work of the MRC.

Training Presentation:

Aquaculture in South Skagit Bay

John Boettner, from Ecoystems First, LLC, presented information about his recently acquired 89.35 acre parcel, called "Triesch Tidelands" in South Skagit Bay, within the boundaries of Snohomish County. The area has approximately 4,000 ft of shoreline, and John is hoping to restore the lands for a sustainable, productive aquaculture venture. Although a quality site check has not been completed, they believe that oysters and mussels are located on-site.

Some of the factors affecting the area include high levels of fecal coliform, sedimentation, and low stream flows. Historically, the old Stillaguamish River main channel flowed north to South Skagit Bay, until a large flooding event dredged a new channel through Hat Slough into Port Susan. The old channel now has increasing levels of contaminants and is filling in with sediments, affecting the both shellfish and other anadromous fish. Eventually, the river will break itself from this channel, and lose connection to Skagit Bay completely, disrupting anadromous fish migration.

Humans have impacted this area through dredging, diking, and land conversion to agriculture. Concerns about these impacts on shellfish and aquaculture are being addressed as part of John's investigation of Triesch Tidelands. He is convinced that the only way to make restoration sustainable is to restore the stream flow to the old Stillaguamish River channel, which will benefit both shellfish and anadromous fish in the area.

Restoring this site will also provide the opportunity for community stewardship involvement. Some preliminary thoughts for achieving this would be to hold a Stewardship Fair exhibit complete with virtual tours of tributaries and landscape models, or hold a fun event such as the "Stilly Bivalvpalooza." Modeled after IslandWood on Bainbridge Island, there could also be a Stewardship Youth Camp, or an award banquet.

Some of the next steps for this project include conducting an initial site visit as soon as daytime tides allow, developing a tribal agreement, determining status of tidelands for shellfish harvest, and determining if/what restoration is needed. Either way, Ecosystems First has been and will be very supportive of the Stillaguamish Restoration Plan efforts.

Discussion Items:

MRC Strategic Plan

Stef Frenzl is in the final stages of negotiations with facilitator, Sandra Bicego from PacificaBlue Consulting. He's very impressed with her work so far, and looks forward to the work ahead. In order for this strategic planning process to be effective, Stef and Sandra discussed a proposed schedule change as follows:

Stage I: Preparations- (planning, interviews, questionnaires, material prep)

Stage II: 2-hour session at March 19 MRC meeting- SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) both with internal and external factors.

Stage III: Day long workshop on a Saturday from 9:00-4:00.

Stage IV: Strategic Plan Development (mostly done by staff and consultant, but very open for anyone interested in contributing)

- The decision was made to hold the workshop retreat on Saturday March 29, 2008, from 9-4pm. It will be potentially held at Dawn's mother's house, but are open to looking for other locations.
- Kirby wants to be sure that the strategic plan efforts are connected to the ones done previously – doesn't want to see overlap.
- Preparation materials and interview questions will be sent out to MRC members before Stage I.
- Daryl will send out some excerpts about SWOT analysis for those who are interested.

MRC Recruitment

Jerry, Tom, Stef, and Amy have been working on a strategy for recruiting new members to the MRC, including developing a contact database of individuals that may be interested in serving.

- Jerry conveyed how important it is to update this database on a regular basis to keep the networking sustainable. Perhaps every meeting, members can bring in lists of contacts, review the list to see who is missing and who needs to be on there.
- Jerry expressed the importance of communicating to interested parties through e-mail updates about the MRC. It's a way of bringing in pools of people through obligations of things that matter.
- Stef brought up that the Council is really looking at who is at the table, and who we have applying. There is a potential that if the applications are "half-hearted," then council can just nominate their own.
- Jerry also stated the importance of talking with council as MRC members. It's important to engage and listen with them one-on-one.
- Chrys said she's happy to coordinate events where MRC members can meet with Council members.

Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area Proposal

The goal of this proposal is to designate Port Susan Bay as a Marine Stewardship area in order to maintain and restore its health and allow it to continue to provide many benefits to people. Jen Sevingy and Chrys Bertolotto are representing the MRC in this working group, and request MRC commitment by: 1) Volunteers in each county assisting with getting support from the County Council, and 2) Volunteers to staff an MSA subcommittee overseeing all facets of Year One Objectives.

- The MRC feels that the MSA is a good idea, but is cautious about the commitment needed and the resources available.
- It was decided that the MRC will support the investigation of whether Port Susan Bay is worthy of being designated as a marine stewardship area in 2008 in order to maintain and restore regional waters.
- The MRC supports the motion for conducting interviews with council members, and will report back at the end of the year to decide further support.

Northwest Straits Commission Report

Ginny Broadhurst is taking over as NWSC's new Director as of February 1. Three people were called in for interviews, and Ginny was the unanimous first choice.

Terry Klinger, Associate Professor of Marine Affairs at the University of Washington was appointed to replace Andrea Copping on the Commission.

NWSC Retreat dates: February 25 and 26th. Stef is coordinating with Kirby and Jerry.

8:45 Adjourn

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

Meeting Summary

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Snohomish County East Administration Building

Public Hearing Room, East

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201

MRC Members Present

Jerry Masters, Chair
Dawn Lawrence, Vice Chair
Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Representative
Chrys Bertolotto
Daryl Williams
Chet Motekaitis
Thomas Hoban

MRC Members Absent

Jen Sevigny
Mary Cunningham (Excused)

Staff, Presenters and Others

Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM
Amy Johnson, Snohomish County SWM, WCC IP
Lily Wescott, Snohomish County SWM
Mark Stamey, Snohomish County TRANS/ENV SERV
Christine Betchley, MRC Applicant
Maureen Burroughs, MRC Applicant
Lincoln Loehr, MRC Applicant
Dena Peel, MRC Applicant
Jon Houghton, Pentec Environmental
Sean Edwards, Snohomish County SWM
Linda Lyshall, Puget Sound Partnership
Steve Sakuma, Puget Sound Partnership
Gary Rowe, Puget Sound Partnership

Summary of Decisions

- January 2008 MRC meeting summary was approved.
- Water quality subcommittee will provide comments on the 2008 303D Report.
- MRC has approved the strategic plan timeline, and the contract will be signed.

Follow-Up Items

- A SWOT analysis will be completed during the MRC meeting on March 19, 2008.

Upcoming Events

- Strategic Planning Team (SPT) meeting on Monday February 25, 2008, from 5 – 6:45pm, at the Snohomish County SWM Conference Room (or by conference call).
- Action Agenda Development Meeting: February 27, 2008, 1-5pm, at Northwest Stream Center, McCollum Park, Everett.
- Restoration work parties at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park to remove invasives and plant native vegetation: February 23, 2008 and March 15, 2008.
- MRC Strategic Planning Retreat: Saturday March 29, 2008, 9-4pm.
- Snohomish County Beach Watcher Training: 3/17/08 – 5/8/08, Mondays and Thursdays, 9:00am – 3:30pm.

Introductions, Agenda & Meeting Summary, and MRC Program Updates:

Dawn Lawrence convened the meeting at 6:35 p.m. The 1-16-08 MRC meeting summary was presented and approved. Four of the 7 candidates for the MRC member positions were introduced: Maureen Burroughs, Chris Betchley, Lincoln Loehr, and Dena Peel. Dawn Lawrence gave an update on the Executive Committee's efforts to introduce the MRC and Marine Resources Program to Councilmember Sullivan. Dawn noted that the Mr. Sullivan was receptive and interested in the MRC and its programs.

MRC Program updates include:

- **Derelict Gear Removal** – The Dungeness crab subcommittee approved a contribution of \$6,315 to a pilot volunteer removal effort scheduled for March 15th and 16th. The goal is to determine the cost-effectiveness of using volunteer divers to remove crab pots from Port Gardner Bay. Kirby, Tom, Jerry, and Amy put a fair amount of work into helping with the diving safety protocols. If you'd like to participate in the removal effort, speak with Amy to coordinate. We also plan to have Sally Hintz from Sen. Cantwell's office there, along with others hopefully.
- **Mussel Watch** – NOAA has eliminated the National Mussel Watch Program from the 2008-2009 NOAA budget after 24 years of continuous national water quality monitoring. The program will be covered in 2008, due to 2007 funding; however, there will not be any NOAA funding in 2009. The MRC is requesting help from NWSC to support state-wide monitoring, and would like member assistance on this effort, and that way we may be able to save the program, at least in the NW straits region.
- **Ph:arm Take-back** – HB 3064, the Secure Medicine Return Bill was unanimously voted out of the House Environmental Health Committee on January 30, 2008. It did not make it out of the Appropriations Committee in time for this session. The bill will likely go all the way in 2009.
- **Water Quality** – Stef is currently working with the consultant to finish up the contract language. The investigation is anticipated for completion by June. Linda is currently working with the Puget Sound Partnership to compile a "big picture" of water quality data.
- **Puget Sound Partnership** – Action Area Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday February 27, 2008 from 1-5pm at the Northwest Stream Center: 600 128th St. SE, Everett, at McCollum Park behind WSU Extension.
- **2008 303D Report** – Alan Mearns composed a draft letter to Dept. of Ecology regarding a few 303D listings in the 2008 303D report: Tulalip, Tulare, Stillaguamish, and Edmonds. He feels the data is outdated,
 - MRC feels that it's a good idea to address these listings, but couch it as a request for more information of the listings, not being forceful.
 - It was decided to have water quality subcommittee review the draft letter, revise, send to entire MRC, and then send in to Ecology from the subcommittee.
 - Lincoln Loehr would like to be included in the review. He feels that the listings may be natural occurrences of low DO.

Public Comment:

None.

Puget Sound Partnership

Linda Lyshall, Steve Sakuma, and Gary Rowe introduced themselves and presented updates on the Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda process. The meeting on February 27 at the Northwest Stream Center will be focused on determining the current ecological status and the primary threats in the Whidbey Basin Action Area.

Steve Sakuma is a third generation farmer, and has spent 12 years growing fruit in the Skagit Valley. He believes in the concept of passing a healthy environment to the next generation, and knows that if we work together we can make a difference. The Puget Sound Partnership has four main purposes: 1) Put together the Action Agenda: a layout of specific tasks that will clean Puget Sound by 2020; 2) Provide communication/outreach about the health and status of Puget Sound; 3) Provide resources to restore Puget Sound, establish accountability, and set targets and benchmarks; 4) Spend money, gain results, and check performance. He feels that the MRC is making a difference, and that the PSP is trying to work with them, not reorganize the whole process.

Gary Rowe has been the Skagit County Administrator for 5 years, and is one member of the 27 member Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB). Mr. Rowe agrees with Ron Simms impression of the purpose of the ECB- the ECB is working to figure out the *how*, not the *what*, regarding Puget Sound recovery. Overall, he has been enjoying learning about all the work done at the grassroots level, such as the watershed councils and the MRCs. Their focus now is determining how to improve and enhance communication between all stakeholders, to make a stronger organization over time.

Questions/Comments:

- How do you see the role of the MRC in conjunction with the PSP?
 - First immediate step is to inform the PSP of projects and activities by filling out the inventory. Important to be brought forward to gain a clear picture in the broad action plan.
- How will the PSP affect what the MRC does in the future? How will the MRC projects fall in line with the PSP priorities?
 - The PSP has no regulatory approach. We can only establish performance standards and accountability. We're partnering with lots of groups, and building products with constituents. Evolution of the Partnership may be a partnership of organizations carrying out the activities, and the MRC is likely to identified as one of those.
- Comment: BNSF rail line is a challenging issue on the local level. Our hope is that the PSP will restore and address this issue, because it's a huge barrier and has contributed to many negative impacts.
- Steve Sakuma offered to help with a liaison relationship with the County Council and Exec.

Mr. Sakuma explained that they're very easy to stay in touch with, so please feel free to let them know if you have any further questions or comments.

Action Items:

Strategic Plan

Stef has been working with our consultant, Sandra Bicego, from PacificaBlue Consulting to develop a timeline for this process. Stef explained the whole timeline during the meeting, including pre-workshop preparation, the SWOT workshop occurring during the MRC meeting on March 19th, the actual retreat, and the post-retreat reporting.

- The first meeting of the Strategic Planning Team (SPT) will be held on Monday February 25 from 5:00-6:45, where we will discuss an overview of what visioning and strategic work has been done to date and its current status, discuss initial ideas for the SWOT meeting and retreat agenda, discuss the questionnaires and interviews, and identify next steps.
- The purpose of the questionnaire is to figure out the status of where the MRC is, and where do we want to go. Staff is looking over past strategic planning materials to use as a starting point in developing the questionnaire. Our consultant, Sandra, will also be reviewing them.
- The end product of this whole process will be a 5-year strategic plan identifying goals, objectives, potential projects, and determining how to structure the MRC as an organization.
- Stef would like to be involved in the SWOT discussion rather than facilitating. Mark Stamey has offered his assistance. Chrys potentially offered a Beach Watcher to assist in facilitation as well as interviewing.
- Staff is still looking for a great location to hold the retreat.
- Motion approved to move forward with the strategic plan and sign the contract.

Discussion Items:

MRC Recruitment

Tom, Jerry, and staff met in December to identify categories and skills we needed on the MRC to replace Alan Mearns, Sally van Niel, and Heather McCartney. The MRC is trying to act differently about recruiting than it had in the past, by being strategic with who we're looking for, and developing a pool of interested parties. We're trying to put a system in place so that at every meeting, we'll bring up recruiting and see who needs to be added to the list. Council gives us pushback when there is only one applicant, so by having this system, we can recommend a lot of high quality candidates that the Council can choose from, since they are the ones to formally appoint new members.

- It's a good idea to include this as part of our strategic plan – to figure out how to pull in actions from the community.
- We've opened the lines of communication with the Port, but no representation yet. We would like to continue recruiting Graham Anderson and make sure he's participating in what we're doing.
- We're missing applicant from District 5. There's a potential that one of our applicants will get bounced for one of the Council's choosing to represent that district. We could also go to Dave Somers and ask for any interested applicants he knows of that we can add to our recruiting database.

Whole Measures

Amy presented on how to apply Whole Measures to the MRC work programs. Whole Measures is a tool created by the Center for Whole Communities used to measure the intangible values such as justice, fairness, community, spirit, and stewardship. The tool encompasses a set of ten “big picture values” that address the connection between environmental and social goals.

We can use this tool during our strategic planning process. It can help us achieve the visioning and planning we need to be successful as an organization. During the retreat, we can identify some key projects that would benefit from this dialogue tool. Staff plans to use Kayak Point as a model for the effectiveness of this tool, and we may use this as part of the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area planning, or for any of our outreach efforts, like beach expos or landowner workshops.

Staff requested MRC members to read the Whole Measures document, and begin to think about using this tool as part of the strategic planning process. Staff also asked MRC members think about the reasons why they joined the MRC, why this work is important, and how the MRC can become more effective in our work in the community.

Snohomish-Camano Nearshore Cooperative Report

Due to time constraints, this discussion item was postponed until the April MRC meeting.

Northwest Straits Commission Report

- NWSC has funding for training effort exchanges between MRCs. Contact them if interested.
- They're in the midst of reauthorizing the commission – process is slow moving.
- NWSC has reviewed volunteer diver plan and approves; they also support the Secure Medicine Return, and has approved funding for the Kayak Point Restoration.
- March meeting location has changed: March 28, 2008 will now be held at Snohomish County, and May 30, 2008 will now be held at Jefferson County.
- Senate Bill 6227 – gives authorization for MRCs in 5 coastal counties – Grays Harbor County is interested. HJM 4029 Memorial, requests continued support of NWSC, sponsored by Rep. Marko Liias. Ginny will let the SnoCo MRC know when we can send a thank you.

Roundtable Announcements

- Beach Watcher Training is scheduled for 3/17/08 – 5/8/08, from 9:00 – 3:30 on Mondays and Thursdays.
- UW Restoration Capstone group at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park is hosting two work parties to remove invasive scotch broom, and plant native drought-tolerant vegetation. They'll be held on Saturday February 23, 2008 and Saturday March 15, 2008.
- WSU Beach Watchers are moving ahead with the escape cord education project.

8:45 Adjourn

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MRC Members Present Jerry Masters, Chair Dawn Lawrence, Vice Chair Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Representative Chrys Bertolotto Daryl Williams Thomas Hoban Jen Sevingy Mary Cunningham	Staff, Presenters and Others Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM Amy Johnson, Snohomish County SWM, WCC IP Lily Wescott, Snohomish County SWM Mark Stamey, Snohomish County ENVIS Christine Betchley, MRC Applicant Maureen Burroughs, MRC Applicant Alan Mearns, NOAA, former MRC member Karen Stewart, Reid Middleton, former MRC member Melinda Gray, AMEC Chuck Beck, County Council
MRC Members Absent Chet Motekaitis	

Summary of Decisions

- MRC approved the use of additional NWSC funds in the amount of \$25,000 spent towards the Kayak Point Park restoration. Approval of specific actions spent with the \$25,000 is pending MRC review via email.

Follow-Up Items

- Part II of the SWOT analysis will be completed during the MRC meeting on April 16, 2008.
- Regular May MRC meeting is canceled due to the Strategic Planning Retreat.

Upcoming Events

- MRC Strategic Planning Retreat: Sunday, May 18, 2008, 9-4pm, located in the Quilceda Village Conference Room at the Tulalip Reservation.
- Snohomish County Beach Watcher Training: 3/17/08 – 5/8/08, Mondays and Thursdays, 9:00am – 3:30pm.

March 19, 2008

Welcome & Introductions:

Jerry Masters convened the meeting at 6:33 p.m. He gave a brief update on the Council meetings with the MRC. The outcome of these meetings is that Councilmember Koster invited the MRC to give him brief updates on how we're doing. Councilmember Somers requested regular presentations to Council, possibly quarterly.

MRC Action Items:

NWSC Funding

NWSC has granted \$25,000 to each MRC specifically for on-the-ground projects. Given the timeline requirements for amending contracts, staff recommends that these additional funds be spent on the Kayak Point Park Restoration project. Funding can go towards outreach/education projects, monitoring, increasing budget for the sea-level rise assessment, or developing social marketing/community engagement projects.

- Alan suggested that perhaps we can use that money for Mussel Watch monitoring at Kayak Point. Others agreed, pending available funding.
- It was decided that the \$25,000 from NWSC should go into the Kayak Point project including Mussel Watch monitoring if needed, climate change assessments, and anything else leftover.

MRC Apparel

The time has come again to update our stylish apparel. The logo will remain the same, but the long-style t-shirts will be changed. Dawn will look into different options for styles and prices, and bring samples back at the next MRC meeting.

Situation Assessment: Checking our Internal, External, Programmatic, and Operational Features – SWOT Analysis

Introduction

Lily Wescott facilitated the first session of our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) analysis (it was decided during the meeting to split the analysis into two parts, given the extra time we had before the retreat). Lily thanked those who assisted with the planning process (the Strategic Planning Team, Joan Douglas - the Beach Watcher interviewer, and all the thoughtful respondents to the interviews and the questionnaire).

Planning Process

Lily then reviewed of the strategic planning diagram in the Strategic Planning Primer provided by our consultant, Sandra Bicego. Assessment and scoping is the first step, which consists of determining why we're planning, and how we will go about it. The NWSC has required the MRCs to undergo a strategic planning process to obtain funding in future grants. The following step is to conduct a situation analysis, by gathering background information and feedback from the members and outside stakeholders to determine where we are currently. Staff went through all the responses and summarized them into a document called "The Voices of the Organization." If interested in seeing the Master document of all the responses, please contact Stef Frenzl.

SWOT Analysis

Using these questionnaires and interviews, Lily tried to capture the big picture ideas of the SWOTs (the situation assessment), and put them on the wall for all to see. When thinking about these, it's important to note that strengths and weaknesses are internal forces – things that we can affect, while opportunities and threats are external forces – things outside of the committee. For example, the County Council is external even though they're technically part of the same organization.

Discussion of New Entries

The group was then given approximately 10 minutes to look at the SWOTs already listed, and then was asked to come up with any others that were missing. The following are new additions only:

Strengths

- “focus on regional issues”

Weaknesses

- Contracting difficulties was suggested as a new addition, but it was decided to lump into “staff maxed out.”
- Lack of understanding of marine ecosystems and drivers.
- Difficulty coordinating with other MRCs
- Data rich, knowledge poor.
- MRC diversity is evident, but it is important to be continually open to more (Clarification: during outreach, bring in other diverse members of Snohomish County, including different backgrounds, ethnicity, etc).
- No risk assessment of marine resources and associated threats.

Opportunities

- Brightwater mitigation/staff \$.
- NPDES (Clarification: opportunity because of cleaner stormwater).
- Untapped port expertise/resources.
- Realize MRC function/goals are key aspect of “mountains-to-sound” system (Clarification: MRC functionality beyond scientific capacity).
- MRC liaisons to local communities (gov and civic)
- Public relations/communications, MRC Identification.

Threats

- Lack of benchmarks – how do you measure progress?
- NPDES (Clarification: Threat because it could shift county staff focus from MRC to NPDES) was suggested as an addition but was regrouped: NPDES grouped with funding cut risks; and stormwater/NPDES discharges were addressed as point pollution vs. non-point pollution.
- Knowledge of upland contribution to marine systems by county citizens.
- Weakening economy.
- Uncertain future of citizen-based management (Clarification: The grassroots, citizen level management organizations are growing, but there's a threat of a top-down takeover.)

Discussion of Top Priorities

During this portion of the exercise, each MRC member received 3 dots to “vote” for their top favorite priorities in each category (S, W, O, T). There was some concern that if we chose our top 5 priorities, the others would be dropped and forgotten. Staff noted that prioritizing is just a great starting point to get a basic idea of strategies that are more important, and at the retreat we’ll look at them again. We’ll determine strategies, determine themes, and then work back up the structure to see if other pieces can be brought back in. *See Page 5 for final summaries and top 5 priorities*

Strengths

- “Ability to develop new ideas” was grouped in with member qualities.
- “Good rep w/ Exec & Council” is because of ability to leverage funds – merge into a group of funding strengths.

Weaknesses

- Dawn would like to see “not maximizing potential volunteer support” as a priority because it’s something that we can take advantage of. Could possibly lump it into partnership/volunteer groups opportunities?
- General agreement was that attendance issues should be addressed. If someone can’t make it to the meeting, they can miss the big picture, and if it happens routinely, there could be some confusion. Council also looks at attendance records.
- It was noted that there’s an important difference between volunteer groups such as the WSU Beach Watchers (which the MRC considers partners), and the untapped volunteer support of the public. We need to take advantage of the public for MRC volunteer support.
- Stef wanted everyone to be aware that he’s seriously considering moving to Toronto, Canada in the near future. Now is the time to strategize to make transition easier. It was decided to include that as “program continuity” and include with “staff maxed out” and “contracting difficulties.”

Opportunities

- Group the new addition of “Brightwater mitigation” into “access to technical experts.”
- Creating an innovative outreach strategy should be listed as a priority, but didn’t receive that many votes. Can we combine with partnerships? Can we add a 6th priority?

Threats

- Alan brought up the difference between threats to marine resources and threats to the committee. It was decided that the MRC would like to break it up into those two categories.
- Risk of funding cuts did not make any votes, but yet that is the biggest threat. It should be on there. We need a strategy of outreach to dissipate that threat, and do a risk assessment to determine true threats.

Next Steps

At next meeting, we will continue with the SWOT discussion, and begin to work on developing strategies. Staff will send out an e-mail of the SWOT summary, and a worksheet to help members start developing responses/strategies in preparation for the SWOT Analysis Part II in April. Please note that the MRC meeting in May is canceled due to the planning retreat.

8:30 Adjourn

See Page 5 for summary document

Final Summary

Internal Forces	External Forces
Strengths	Opportunities
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Strong member qualities (grouping – member energy/commitment, diverse member representation & expertise, members stay current on marine issues, ability to generate new ideas/actions) ▲ 2) Dedicated and knowledgeable staff ▲ 3) Access to technical/scientific experts ▲ 4) Strengthening communication with Exec and Council (grouping – good reputation with Exec & Council, good leveraging of funds) ▲ 5) Partnerships with other agencies ▲ 6) Follow-through on projects / impressive projects completed so far 7) Relatively consistent funding sources 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Encouragement / assistance with development of low impact development guidelines by municipalities ▲ 2) Developing relationships with local communities (grouping – MRC liaisons to local communities, interest from Council and Exec) ▲ 3) Include volunteers in greater capacity ▲ 4) Coordinate with existing efforts in the Stillaguamish & Snohomish Estuaries ▲ 5) Access to technical / scientific expertise (grouping – details listed on subsequent pages) ▲ 6) Innovative outreach/PR strategies (proposed 6th; grouping – innovative outreach strategies: social marketing, whole measures, broader public relations efforts/opportunity for good press, Public relations/communications, MRC identification) ▲ 7) Partnerships / alignment with other agencies 8) Realize MRC function / goals are key aspect of “mountains to sound” system 9) New member enthusiasm, increased time commitment 10) Additional funding through NWSF, PSP, others 11) Additional protection measures during redevelopment of Port Gardner Bay 12) NPDES
Weaknesses	Threats
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Problems relating to organizational structure ▲ (grouping – Attendance issues – unable to contribute beyond monthly meetings – barrier to capacity building, weak or non-functioning subcommittees) 2) No overall outreach strategy/few know of MRC. Partnerships vs. citizens (volunteers). ▲ 3) Lack of true advisory role to Exec/Council, and coordination with PDS ▲ 4) Staff overload, contracting difficulties, lack of plan for program continuity if Stef leaves ▲ 5) No risk assessment of marine resources and associated threats ▲ 6) Untapped partnerships 7) Slow approval process for comments / recommendations to outside organizations 8) Lack of understanding of our marine ecosystems and what the drivers are 9) MRC diversity is evident but it’s important to be continually open to more 10) Room for improvement in coordination between staff & MRC / program continuity during staff change 11) Unbalanced member District representation 12) Not maximizing potential volunteer support 13) Lack of clear direction in coordination with PSP, Port Susan MSA, Nearshore Coop., etc. 14) No long term funding strategy 15) No priority system for projects: i.e. monitoring vs. on-the-ground work 16) Lack of monitoring and evaluation of effectiveness of actions 17) Difficulty coordinating with other MRCs 18) Data rich, knowledge poor (use it!) 	<p><u>Resources</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Increased development in Snohomish County (grouping – Development/habitat conversion, increase in port activity and development) ▲ 2) Recreational pressure on harvestable nearshore species ▲ 3) Bulkheads and shoreline modifications/BNSF railroad ▲ 4) Apathy/lack of knowledge from general public ▲ 5) Unacceptable point pollution (e.g. Kimberley Clark) ▲ 6) Continuing decline of local marine resources 7) Stormwater management / Runoff / Nonpoint pollution 8) Climate change / Sea level rise 9) Lack of benchmarks 10) Poorly-studied resources declining in population / health 11) Invasive species 12) Population growth 13) Knowledge of upland contribution by citizens <p><u>Organizational</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Funding and economic uncertainty ▲ (proposed 6th; grouping – risk of funding cuts/NPDES, weakening economy) 2) Public Perception: MRC not well known 3) MRC could be faulted for discrepancy between MRC action & code 4) Uncertain future of citizen-based management

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, April 16, 2008, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Snohomish County East Administration Building

Public Hearing Room, East

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201

MRC Members Present

Jerry Masters, Chair
Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Representative
Chrys Bertolotto
Daryl Williams
Thomas Hoban
Mary Cunningham

MRC Members Absent

Dawn Lawrence, Vice Chair (excused)
Jen Sevingy, (excused)
Chet Motekaitis (excused)

Staff, Presenters and Others

Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM
Amy Johnson, Snohomish County SWM, WCC IP
Lily Wescott, Snohomish County SWM
Christine Betchley, MRC Applicant
Alan Mearns, NOAA, former MRC member
Katrina Hoffman, WA Sea Grant
Chuck Beck, County Council

Summary of Decisions

- MRC approved the use of additional NWSC funds in the amount of \$25,000 spent towards the Kayak Point Park restoration. Approval of specific actions spent with the \$25,000 is pending MRC review via email.

Follow-Up Items

- Island County potluck date will be determined at the MRC Retreat.
- Regular May MRC meeting is canceled due to the Strategic Planning Retreat.

Upcoming Events

- Earth Day Walk in Marysville, Ebey Waterfront Park – April 19, 2008 from 10-2pm.
- Invasive Species Monitoring Training – April 19, 2008 from 1-4:30.
- MRC Strategic Planning Retreat: Sunday, May 18, 2008, 9-4pm, located in the Quilceda Village Conference Room at the Tulalip Reservation.
- Snohomish County Beach Watcher Training: 3/17/08 – 5/8/08, Mondays and Thursdays, 9:00am – 3:30pm.
- Beach Expos: Picnic Point County Park – June 21, 2008 from 11-2; Mukilteo Lighthouse Park – July 19, 2008 from 11-2; Kayak Point County Park – August 2, 2008 from 10:30 – 1:30.
- Escape Cord Education Events: July 2-5, 2008, at various boat launches along Snohomish County shoreline. Contact Chrys Bertolotto for more details.
- Jetty Island Opening Day Extravaganza – July 5, 2008.

April 16, 2008

Welcome & Introductions:

Jerry Masters convened the meeting at 6:38 p.m. Minutes were approved with the exception of Mary Cunningham requesting her absence to be excused on February 20, 2008. Permission was granted.

MRC Announcements and Discussion Items:

Council Member Meetings

The meetings with the Council members have been positive so far. They are aware of the issues to the marine resources, and have a positive opinion of the work we've done so far. They're definitely interested in staying updated and informed about what is and what should be marine resource priorities.

- It was suggested to include them on e-mail updates and invite the Council members to the MRC events.

Port Susan MSA

The Island County Commission approved direction to the County MRC to look into the Port Susan MSA in more detail. They're in general support of the tribes, Snohomish County, and TNC to look at the necessary issues to address, including project scoping needs and partnerships. The PSMSA working group is developing a report and a plan for moving forward with presenting to Council and Exec. Reardon and Cooper are both aware of the PSMSA, and the rest will be contacted soon.

- Tom has been representing the MRC at the various stakeholder meetings. He added that Tom Cohen has been moving forward with interviewing the community to determine their attitudes towards the PSMSA.

MRC Strategic Planning Retreat

The retreat is scheduled to be held on Sunday, May 18th, from 9-4pm, at the Quilceda Conference Room in Quilceda Village. If it's in the budget, we'd like to be able to go to Bob's as a way to get out of the room and free our minds for a break. If that's not possible, the other alternative is to bring potluck choices for everyone.

- It was decided that we'd preorder from Bob's for the MRC retreat.

Escape Cord Education

July 2nd is opening day for crabbing season, and WSU Beach Watchers will be out in full force from July 2-5th at various boat launches around the County handing out escape cord education cards. Sites include: Edmonds Boat Launch, Everett Boat Launch, Kayak Point County Park, and Dagmar's Marina. If interested in volunteering, contact Chrys Bertolotto at chrys@wsu.edu or (425) 357-6020.

MRC Summer Potluck

Island County MRC has invited the Snohomish County MRC to a potluck on their turf. Several dates have been suggested, with August being most likely. The final decision will be made at the MRC Strategic Planning Retreat.

Brightwater Presentations

Monica Van der Vieren offered two presentations to the MRC regarding Brightwater's work in Puget Sound. The first one would be an initial update, with the second one being more specific to water quality and evaluating the treatment effectiveness. The soonest she can come is July, but we don't have a date set for the Island County Potluck either.

- Kirby suggested that he'd rather see a presentation on the 303d listing first, rather than the Brightwater. Daryl saw no problem postponing the Brightwater presentation either.
- It was decided to invite the DOE to the MRC meeting to present on the 303d listings, nail down the potluck date, and then schedule the Brightwater meeting.

MRC Outreach Events

Earth Day Walk

The MRC is participating in the Earth Walk Adventure on April 19, 2008 from 10-2, put on by City of Marysville in Partnership with many local organizations. It's a family-friendly event featuring water-themed exhibits and hands-on activities, where participants walk about 1 mile starting at the Ebey Waterfront Park, along Ebey Slough through the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and ending with birdwatching at the Qwuloot.

Beach Expos

Three beach expos have been planned this year:

June 21st at Picnic Point County Park from 11-2;

July 19th at Mukilteo Lighthouse Park from 11-2;

and August 2nd at Kayak Point County Park from 10:30 – 1:30.

The MRC is taking a co-lead on coordinating service learning work parties at both Picnic Point and Kayak Point for Sound Stewards during these expos. Other partnerships include People for Puget Sound, WSU Beach Watchers, Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Taskforce, and Puget Soundkeepers Alliance.

Jetty Island

July 5th is opening day for Jetty Island, and the events are numerous! People for Puget Sound will be conducting their annual vegetation monitoring survey, hosting a Sound Stewards work party, and holding an educational/outreach event. The mud monster will even be making an appearance! The festivities are happening from 10-2pm, and we would like to have at least one MRC member represent by volunteering their time to help with these events.

If you're interested in volunteering at any of these events, please contact Amy Johnson at amy.johnson@co.snohomish.wa.us or (425)388-3464 x4573.

Evaluating Biological Condition of Puget Sound

Casimir Alexander Rice, of NWFSC, completed his PhD dissertation entitled "Evaluating the Biological Condition of Puget Sound." Amy Johnson will be reading through and summarizing the threats and suggestions he identifies in his dissertation, in relation to both consistencies and gaps between his ideas and the MRC work plan. She will be sending out to MRC members approximately 2 weeks before the retreat.

Kayak Point Budget

Stef is still working on developing the Kayak Point budget, and should have it for members to review at the MRC retreat. So far, NWSC is hesitant on including Mussel Watch as part of the monitoring, but we have funding elsewhere, so Kayak Point will still be sampled. We will be establishing baseline vegetation monitoring surveys this summer with Chrys Bertolotto and the WSU Beach Watchers, and the scope of work for the Sea Level Rise should be completed soon.

Situation Assessment: Finalizing the SWOT Analysis

Due to lack of time at the last meeting, the discussion around the threats piece was not completed. MRC members were given a few minutes to check-in on any needed changes or additions to the threat prioritization. A couple of minor changes were made to the wording of the threats, but no significant additions or changes were made. There was some discussion on whether or not we should explicitly state the railroad as being a threat, or if it should be referred to as shoreline modifications. No decision was made.

Creative Thinking – Organizational Response to Our Situation Assessment

Lily Wescott continued the facilitation of our second session of our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) analysis, in which we developed strategies from the combination of SO, ST, WO, and WT. Lily also gave a brief synopsis of the results of last month's meeting to refresh memories before beginning breakout group discussions.

The purpose of this activity was to generate potential strategies/activities the MRC can engage in using combinations of our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SO, ST, WO, WT). Each group was in charge of answering one of the following questions:

- SO strategies: What strengths take advantages of identified opportunities?
- ST: What strengths can be employed to avoid threats?
- WO: What weaknesses can be overcome by taking advantage of opportunities available to the MRC?
- WT: What can we do to reduce areas that are weaknesses that could make us vulnerable to an impending threat?

After developing strategies, we started pulling out overarching themes, such as outreach, funding, council, etc, began to emerge, and we grouped them based the themes. The theming exercise resulted in 13 themes: council & exec, education, outreach, funding, internships, LID, MRC recruitment, new issues strategy, partnerships, Port Susan MSA, science & evaluation, subcommittee structure, and volunteers. The strategies are listed in the attached summary document.

Next Steps

The retreat will be held on Sunday, May 18, and Sandra Bicego, our facilitator will be in charge now. We'll be looking at the themes again and get a big picture check – “is this where we want to be heading?” Once we've settled on the big themes, we'll get started on developing focus areas and details of different activities the MRC can work on. After the retreat, Sandra will develop a strategic plan, and the MRC members and staff will work to revise any needed changes.

8:45 Adjourn

See Pages 4-7 for summary document

FINAL SUMMARY

Theme 1	Theme 2	Dots	Strategy	Type
*None		0	Give Stef really bad performance evaluations so he can't find another job elsewhere - OR - Develop strategy to keep program continuity during staff changes.	WT
Council & Exec		6	Use our opportunity to meet with Exec/Council to petition for more of an advisory role and communicate the need for continued funding.	WT
Council & Exec		1	Regularly update council/exec on Work Plan progress by becoming an item on the agenda in regular council meetings or subcommittee meetings. (Several MRC members should do this, not staff.)	SO
Council & Exec		0	Strengthen relationship between the Exec and Council to secure future funding.	ST
Education		NA	Many people don't know the difference between soft shore armoring and bulkheads. Create a half page piece for beach community newsletters with diagrams.	ST
Education		7	Continue to prioritize / require community education and outreach as a part of every project within the Work Plan. We have to get out the "good news" about "good work". Message must be understandable.	ST
Education		4	Work with other partners (WDFW, Tribes, etc.) & local newspapers to develop a series of stories related to Dungeness crab harvest - how harvest has been increasing, derelict gear, habitat, & stressors, unknowns, research being done, personal stories from long-time commercial and recreational crabbers, harvest contributions to economy (crab pot purchases, fishing licenses, commercial sales) etc.	ST
Education		4	Select 3 projects as top priorities, then blast the public with awareness	ST
Education	Science & Evaluation	3	Identify where development and stormwater are most likely to affect nearshore harvestable species and develop education component.	ST
Education		3	Continue landowner workshops - targeting new property owners, new subjects. Technical advice follow up.	ST
Education		0	Let's get tough on POINT POLLUTION. Could be the subject of an article in the LOCAL section of the newspaper within the "dedicated MRC section".	WT
Funding		NA	Develop cost/benefit relationship as an incentive to Exec/Council to address point pollution as increased tourist/recreational revenues (through LID development, restoration, removal or correction of point pollution, increase desirability of destination, etc.).	ST
Funding		NA	Prioritize projects by maximum benefit vs man-hours required to focus results on greatest results/return.	WT
Funding		4	Ensure funding stability through the development and implementation of a funding strategy that increases diversity of funding sources and reduces reliance on government.	WT
Funding	Education	3	Develop entrepreneurial strategies to educate public and fundraise simultaneously	SO
Funding		0	We'd need an organizational change towards how we fund ourselves to implement Example 2...we'd have to implement a major PR campaign...like the ballet, symphony, etc...does to secure major donors. Don't know that we're capable...but could the mussel watch program be "sponsored by Triton Marine"? Derelict gear by "Joe's Fishing Shack"? If there was a PR benefit and a marine resource benefit to be had, could we pair the two? (It's probably a whacko idea...but hey, that's what these things are for!)	WT
Internship		7	Secure grant funding to support grad students who can conduct sci/tech projects for the MRC	WO
Internship		1	Provide suggestions to UW graduate students for projects/theses that can help support MRC priorities, while expending few MRC resources. (access to technical / scientific expertise, no contracting involved)	WO
LID		4	Work with local government to develop low impact development guidelines and build partnerships to ensure guidelines are implemented	SO
LID		0	Strengthen partnerships to implement LID projects (work with experts)	SO

LID		0	Strengthen partnerships with local governments, tribes, and nonprofits to develop LID guidelines	SO
LID		0	Strengthen understanding of LID successes and failures	SO
MRC Recruitment		NA	Develop specific roles for each board position, as to expectations of each position held, in addressing marine issues.	WO
MRC Recruitment		5	Leverage MRC Capacity by recruiting new stakeholders to participate in MRC meetings and projects.	SO
MRC Recruitment		1	Diverse membership could inspire more outreach to address apathy from the general public.	ST
New Issues Strategy		NA	Strategy for responding to new opportunities.	SO
New Issues Strategy		NA	Strategy for responding to new threats.	ST
Outreach		NA	Use members to address local community groups about who we are and what we do.	SO
Outreach		9	A dedicated space in HERALD and other media featuring articles on MRC concerns	WO
Outreach		5	Develop a series of powerpoints for MRC members to present to neighborhood groups, City Councils, other organized groups. Powerpoints could address overall MRC activities, and/or concentrate on specific activities, such as Dungeness crab, Port Susan resources/threats.	ST
Outreach		4	Include Exec/Council in outreach strategy - have them included/quoted in press releases for fun projects, included in introductions at public meetings, like landowner workshops, public meetings on Port Susan project.	WO
Outreach		4	Use the Port Susan project to develop information & an outreach strategy related to the impacts of development, sustainable harvest and shoreline modifications.	WT
Outreach		2	Develop public outreach strategy that will enhance the profile of the MRC and build greater awareness about who the MRC is, what it does and why. The Outreach Strategy will enhance support by volunteers and partners.	WO
Outreach	Science & Evaluation	2	Evaluate and prioritize risks to marine resources and send to Everett Herald and KOMO	WT
Outreach		1	MRC LOGO could be included in more county wide communication. E.G. On Line Sno Cty Newsletter	SO
Outreach		1	Slogans...e.g. "A SECOND CHANCE FOR CRABS" (For the Derelict Pot Program) or "THERE IS NO SECOND CHANCE FOR SOME SPECIES WHEN THEY ARE GONE"	WO
Outreach		0	Include the public thru media and other means to expand awareness of all threats	SO
Outreach		0	LOGO awareness	WO
Outreach		0	Develop outreach strategies for volunteers, municipalities, etc. using social marketing expertise of Snohomish County	WO
Outreach		0	MRC members to utilize "canned" MRC presentation (already produced) to their constituents (cities, tribes, etc.)	WO
Outreach		0	Connect with enviro. Beat journalist(s) at the Herald; ensure they know MRC is source of stories / quotes	WO
Outreach		0	Increase MRC role in the Nearshore Cooperative and better utilize volunteer possibilities to implement projects	WO
Outreach		0	Provide presentations to PDS, similar to those to County Council - describing MRC role & info MRC has and ask how the MRC can better benefit / advise / coordinate with them.	WT
Outreach		0	Require all MRC members & staff to wear their MRC shirts 7 days/week. Write "Snohomish County Marine Resources Committee" really large on the back of the shirts.	WT
Partnerships		NA	Extend partnerships outside present associations to other state and federal agencies (ie DEOHS's "Pacific Northwest Center for Human Health and Ocean Studies") for new approaches to develop public awareness and vested interest in marine issues	SO

Partnerships	Science & Evaluation	4	Utilize our technical and scientific experts to identify unacceptable point pollution and work with our relevant partners to develop an outreach strategy targeting the general public that addresses NPS Pollution impacts to our marine environment.	WT
Partnerships		1	Partner with other Agencies/Tribes to access technical expertise and use their staff to conduct MRC projects.	SO
Partnerships		1	Partner with Snohomish County Parks to develop volunteer groups based around the Kayak Park bulkhead project.	WT
Partnerships		0	Partnerships with NOAA (Mukilteo), BNSF, US Navy, Boeing, etc. for projects.	SO
Partnerships		0	More effort to broaden and improve involvement & cooperation with The Tribes. (The foundation for the Tulalip museum has been laid. MRC can get involved with that)	ST
Partnerships		0	Partner with Puget Soundkeepers Alliance to review WDOE-NPDES permit update to reduce point sources where appropriate	ST
Partnerships		0	Partnering with other agencies, develop joint approach to addressing extensive shoreline modifications and railroad	ST
Partnerships		0	Keep encouraging the PS Partnership and PSNERP to take on the BNSF bulkhead issue, but otherwise don't get involved.	WT
Port Susan MSA	Exec & Council	7	Gaining Exec and Council to support for projects such as the Port Susan MSA will allow for coordination between the Stillaguamish and Snohomish Estuaries.	SO
Port Susan MSA		1	Take the lead on the Port Susan project with the Island County MRC & identify the MRCs prominently in notices, etc. for that project.	WT
Port Susan MSA		0	Develop volunteer opportunities specifically related to Port Susan & associated volunteer recruitment of interested parties / property owners in the Port Susan area.	SO
Port Susan MSA		0	Work with NWSA, Island County MRC, Tribes, Nature Conservancy, Stillaguamish Clean Water District & others to develop a marine stewardship area for Port Susan, reporting back frequently & obtaining continuing support from the Exec and Council.	SO
Port Susan MSA		0	Use PSMSA (stilly estuary opportunity) to pilot advisory role to executive and council.	WO
Science & Evaluation		NA	Review of available (in-hand) data compared with estuarine systems (ie Chesapeake Bay) that are showing recovery to determine feasibility of modeling preservation/recovery methods to our marine waters	WT
Science & Evaluation		6	Use technical staff and experts to generate a risk assessment of marine resources, which can then be used in bulkhead and shoreline modification issues.	WT
Science & Evaluation		5	Identify/map existing community pressures on harvestable nearshore species through the use of our technical and scientific experts. Then, identify future development pressures. Compare the two maps to determine priority of projects within the work plan. Would help in our communications with the council and exec if we could aid in the prioritization. We might be best able to recommend some sort of priority...even though it might seem biased towards marine conservation.	ST
Science & Evaluation		2	Information about recreational harvesting of harvestable nearshore species, point pollution and major development projects could be included in council updates.	WT
Science & Evaluation		1	Identify and map key recreational and development pressures on harvestable nearshore species through the use of our technical and scientific experts.	ST
Science & Evaluation		1	Link invasive species monitoring program to engage volunteers in documenting invasive species threats.	WO
Science & Evaluation		0	Coordinate with agencies involved in Stillaguamish and Snohomish Estuaries to assess risks to marine resources and associated threats.	WO
Sub-Committee Structure		2	Link MRC sub-committees to existing efforts in the Stillaguamish and Snohomish estuaries to increase community participation and outreach. It could improve efficiency and stretch scarce staffing resources. The sub-committees could report progress back as part of every MRC meeting. Probably half the sub-committees in one meeting, the other half in the next meeting. We would be increasing the membership in the subcommittee by finding community partners with similar interests.	WO

Sub-Committee Structure		2	Create sub-committee structures that encourage volunteer involvement: regularly scheduled, written goals and job descriptions, short-term appointments	WO
Sub-Committee Structure		1	Sub-Committee on LID could be developed from existing information/member participation and distributed to various municipalities to assure consistent adoption. We'd have to monitor it and update it regularly. But it could be a great excuse to stay in front of city planners.	WO
Sub-Committee Structure		0	Re-visit sub-committee topics (e.g. LID, volunteerism, etc.)	WO
Volunteer		NA	Find better ways to utilize knowledgeable volunteers (therefore releasing pressure on members and staff)	WO
Volunteer		5	Develop a volunteer recruitment strategy and routinely engage with the pool of prospective volunteers, local community groups, local governments and citizens while promoting our Work Plan. (Could envision a regular community "update" presentation that is regularly delivered to interested parties by members of the MRC.)	SO
Volunteer		0	Develop a volunteer recruitment and affirmation strategy	SO
Volunteer		0	Develop volunteer projects to involve UW Bothell and Edmonds CC student volunteers.	SO
Volunteer		0	Incorporate volunteers in a greater capacity for outreach activities associated with partnership projects.	WO

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

Meeting Summary

Sunday, May 18, 2008, 9a.m. – 4 p.m.

Quilceda Conference Room

<p>MRC Members Present Jerry Masters, Chair Dawn Lawrence, Vice Chair Chrys Bertolotto Daryl Williams Thomas Hoban Jen Sevingy</p> <p>MRC Members Absent Chet Motekaitis (excused) Mary Cunningham (excused) Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Representative (excused)</p>	<p>Staff, Presenters and Others Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM Amy Johnson, Snohomish County SWM, WCC IP Lily Wescott, Snohomish County SWM Sandra Bicego, PacificaBlue Consulting, Facilitator Lynda Ransley, Snohomish County SWM Alan Mearns, NOAA, former MRC member Christine Betchley, former MRC staff Karen Stewart, SnoCo PDS, former MRC member Lincoln Loehr, nominated MRC member</p>
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Summary of Decisions

- MRC approved the budget for the \$25,000 NWSC funds to be spent towards the Kayak Point Park restoration.

Follow-Up Items

- Regular May MRC meeting is canceled due to the Strategic Planning Retreat.
- Habitat Working Group will meet Tuesday, June 3 at 9am; Outreach Working Group will meet Friday, June 6 at 8:30am; and Organizational Impact Working Group will meet Wednesday June 11 at 3:30pm. All meetings will be held at the Snohomish County building.

Upcoming Events

- Beach Expos: Picnic Point County Park – June 21, 2008 from 11-2; Mukilteo Lighthouse Park – July 19, 2008 from 11-2; Kayak Point County Park – August 2, 2008 from 10:30 – 1:30.
- Escape Cord Education Events: July 2-5, 2008, at various boat launches along Snohomish County shoreline. Contact Chrys Bertolotto for more details.
- Jetty Island Opening Day Extravaganza – July 5, 2008.
- Island County/Snohomish County MRC Potluck – Tuesday August 19, 2008 at 5pm in Clinton, WA.

May 18, 2008

Welcome & Introductions:

Jerry Masters convened the meeting at 9:05 am. Participants introduced themselves, and Sandra Bicego, our facilitator from PacificaBlue Consulting introduced herself. She started us off with an exercise of big-picture thinking. We were to draw the reason why we joined the MRC. Each participant then shared their drawing and story with the whole group. MRC staff reviewed the progress we've made to date, and Sandra reviewed the agenda with the group and ensured everyone was okay with the plan for the day.

MRC Discussion Items:

Island County Summer Potluck

Island County MRC has invited the Snohomish County MRC to a potluck on their turf. Tuesday August 19th was suggested as a good date, but they are willing to be flexible. The potluck will be held at a park in Clinton right off the ferry around 5:00pm.

- It was decided to accept the invitation for August 19, at 5pm.

Kayak Point Budget

Stef Frenzl presented the budget for the \$25,000 NWSC funds to be spent towards the Kayak Point County Park restoration project. The funds would be used for community surveys, the UW keystone program, and finishing up the feasibility and design study.

- Dawn commented that she liked how we are spending money to engage the community in a different way than we've done before.
- Alan inquired about the Mussel Watch sampling at Kayak, and was told that it wasn't included because the funding for the sampling would be coming elsewhere.
- The MRC approved the budget as written.

Confirmation of Our Mission and Vision

Discussion around the MRC's mission and vision first began with the questionnaires, and the results indicated that most were in agreement about general concepts, but wordsmithing was needed. The vision of the organization captures how the world would look if the MRC was successful in their efforts, while the mission describes the MRC's function, purpose, or reason for existence. The entire group participated in sharing their feelings and opinions on the suggested statements. After much discussion, it the following statements were chosen as the final Vision and Mission statements:

- **Vision:** *A healthy, enduring Puget Sound ecosystem in Snohomish County with sustainable, diverse marine resources shared and protected by all.*
- **Mission:** *Guided by sound science and the needs of the Northwest Straits marine ecosystem, the Snohomish MRC:*
 - *Evaluates and sets priority actions,*
 - *Recommends and implements actions to local authorities,*
 - *and promotes effective stewardship of Snohomish County marine waters, habitat, species and adjacent shorelines.*

MRC Programs and Long-term Goal Setting

After the last MRC meeting with the SWOT strategies development, MRC staff went through and created a draft program structure based on the results of the interplay. Staff made some modifications with the theme structure, and rather than separating activities by funding, education, council & exec, etc, we instead grouped them into overarching program and goal areas. The MRC members were presented

with a large document of the suggested program structure, which included all of the activities developed during the April MRC meeting. The document was used as a starting place for group discussion, and any changes and additions were made during the breakout sessions of the retreat.

The breakout sessions resulted in productive group discussion about initial changes to the structure. There was a lot of minor changes and discussion which weren't very controversial, but there were others that had more discussion. The first issue was on creating a separate goal for evaluation and monitoring. Alan Mearns felt it was a necessary component, and should be brought to the goal level to evaluate what we're doing, and continue ongoing projects. Dawn Lawrence felt that it was more of a tool used and should not be considered a goal, but rather a strategy/activity.

There was also some discussion on separating protection and restoration as two different goals (i.e. protect marine habitat and species; restore marine habitat and species). Chris Betchley felt that it needed to be separate because they have different objectives for completing them (i.e. setting up an MPA has different objectives than restoring Kayak Point). Karen Stewart also feels that by isolating restoration and protection, we can bring more attention to both of them and become more effective in our work with County and State government. Jerry Masters felt the opposite, and thought that by placing them in the same goal, we could take advantage of the extra visibility.

Chrys Bertolotto felt that the community stewardship component should be listed as a separate program area, with its own goals and objectives. Jerry Masters felt that we need to include a piece about integrating human use of all stakeholders (with environmental messages or not), and it would fit right in to the community stewardship program area. It was decided to call the new Program 2, "Integrate the Community in Actions."

There were other name changes including changing Program 1 from "Protect/Restore Marine Resources" to "Advance the Health of the Marine Ecosystem", and Program 3 (formerly Program 2), to "Sustain and Enhance Organizational Impact."

Objectives and Strategizing Our Way Forward

The last portion of the day was spent in small breakout groups for the three program areas: Advance the Health of the Marine Ecosystem, Integrate the Community in Actions, and Sustain and Enhance Organization Impact. Each group was tasked with the job of confirming, adding, and/or changing the goals and objectives to ensure they were achieving what they wanted. The final structure based on the results of this breakout session can be found on page 6 of this document.

Next Steps

Three working group meetings were scheduled to continue discussion and to finalize the objective/goal sheets for the Marine Environment, the Organizational Impact, and the Community Action teams. They will be held on:

Tuesday June 3, 9am – Marine Environment Team

Friday June 6, 8:30am – Community Action Team

Wednesday June 11, 3:30pm – Organizational Impact Team

Before these meetings, MRC staff will send out the list of goals and objectives developed during the retreat, and the separate list of activities. At these meetings, participants will determine clear objectives and strategies, and make them SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely). Don't focus too much on the activities, since that will come later as we develop our workplan. At the MRC meeting in June, we'll present the updated goal sheets, then send what we came up with to Sandra, and then she'll start developing a draft strategic plan. She'll send it back to us for review before the July

meeting. The target for completing the strategic plan is the September MRC meeting.

Miscellaneous Closing Thoughts

- We should start thinking about plans for presenting our plan to the County Council and Exec, especially since we'll be asking for general funds during the next budget cycle.
- Sharepoint Software is an excellent method for sharing documents and other information with groups. It's good for managing subcommittees and other working groups, and you can even share calendars. Lynda is happy to coordinate it, and we can potentially do it live at an MRC meeting.
- Great meeting everyone! It was productive, and enjoyable. Excellent facilitation and participation!

4:05 Adjourn

See Page 5 for MRC Program Structure Outline

1. Advance the Health of the Marine Environment [who?]
 - i. Protect & restore marine habitat and species
 1. Move strategy 1.1.3 (from blue sheet) to program 2
 2. New suggested strategy: Generate risk assessment of marine resources – pilot through PSMA?
 1. assessment of current activities
 2. tap into PSP resources and existing research
 3. Set protection and restoration priorities: conduct science-based prioritization, also prioritize based on 3.iii (bottom of this sheet)
 - ii. Research, Evaluate, and monitor
 1. Maintain existing monitoring programs
 - iii. Protect and restore water quality
 - iv. Coordinate and prioritize activities in consideration of existing initiatives and other agencies
2. Integrate the Community in Actions [newly formed subcommittee: Chrys, Lily, Chris, others?]
 - i. HIGH - Increase community awareness and stewardship to improve marine resource health
 1. Prioritize outreach efforts within marine resource priorities
 1. Provide guidance to project managers
 2. criteria to prioritize projects
 3. ID missing audiences
 4. Analyze and strategize messages related to other outreach activities from other organizations
 2. Developing digestible outreach products
 1. ID ed resource gaps
 3. Encourage practices that protect and restore marine resources (businesses, schools, community, individuals)
 - ii. HIGH - Monitoring and measuring effectiveness of outreach programs and making necessary adjustments
 1. Provide support or guidelines to project managers in terms of ed/outreach
 2. Assist in communication between projects
 - iii. HIGH - Integrate human use and values of marine resources
 1. Determine the community values of marine resources in Sno Co
 1. Compile use types of resources
 2. Surveys, public opinion research
 2. Articulate community values of resources
 1. Media
 2. Outreach methods into projects
 - iv. MED – Maintain and enhance community volunteer involvement and participation
 1. Promote partnerships that will result in volunteer-coordinated projects
 1. Solicit their participation and leadership skills
 2. Conduct list of potential leadership entities
 2. Volunteer grant program, formalize funding to partner projects
3. Sustain and Enhance Organizational Impact [staff, committee chair, subcommittee chairs?/executive subcommittee?]
 - i. Strategic coordination and collaboration
 1. Understanding our organizational environment
 1. Map and track our overall environment to find our overlap with other programs
 2. Identify and develop strategic partnerships
 1. See blue sheet: 3.1.1 – 3.1.8
 - ii. Ensure Organizational health and capacity
 1. Develop and implement a member recruitment and training program
 1. develop and maintain member recruitment list and ensure diversity
 2. conduct a training program
 3. maintain a member handbook
 4. establish clear roles and responsibilities
 2. Ensure high caliber staffing of MRC
 1. ensure combination of technical and group dynamics skillset
 2. utilize interns
 3. conduct performance evals
 4. supervision and support for coordinator
 3. Maintain supporting resource base for effectiveness
 1. Financial
 2. Political: cultivate relationships
 3. Partnerships: seek involvement of key groups
 4. Conduct performance evaluation and adaptive management of the organization
 1. Balance capacity with workplan expectations: under-promise over-deliver
 - iii. Provide Effective and informed guidance
 1. Visibility: Maintain high visibility to key decision makers and community partners
 2. Credibility: advance organizational credibility via effective and informed analysis
 3. Focus: priorities are determined by alignment of resources plus role plus opportunity plus need plus potential for impact
 4. Feedback: establish and maintain feedback mechanisms on workplan, related activities, key audiences [use key words as guiding principles]

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, June 18, 2008, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Snohomish County East Administration Building

Public Hearing Room, East

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201

<p>MRC Members Present Jerry Masters, Chair Dawn Lawrence, Vice Chair Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Representative Chrys Bertolotto Daryl Williams Thomas Hoban Mary Cunningham</p> <p>MRC Members Absent Jen Sevigny, (excused) Chet Motekaitis (excused)</p>	<p>Staff, Presenters and Others Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM Amy Johnson, Snohomish County SWM, WCC IP Lily Wescott, Snohomish County SWM Lynda Ransley, Snohomish County SWM Mark Stamey, Snohomish County ENVS Dena Peel, Nominated MRC Member Lincoln Loehr, Nominated MRC Member</p>
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Summary of Decisions

- MRC Meeting Summaries for April and May meetings were approved.

Follow-Up Items

- July MRC Meeting will be partially used to discuss the MRC's organizational structure and to work toward defining and prioritizing activities.

Upcoming Events

- Beach Expos: Picnic Point County Park – June 21, 2008 from 11-2; Mukilteo Lighthouse Park – July 19, 2008 from 11-2; Kayak Point County Park – August 2, 2008 from 10:30 – 1:30.
- Escape Cord Education Events: July 2-5, 2008, at various boat launches along Snohomish County shoreline. Contact Chrys Bertolotto for more details.
- Jetty Island Opening Day Extravaganza – July 5, 2008
- Low Tide Days at the Beach with WSU Beach Watchers: Mukilteo Lighthouse Park – June 20th 11:40 – 1:40; July 4th – 11:20 – 1:20; July 5th – 12:00 – 2:00; July 17th – 10:00 – 12:00; August 1st – 10:15 – 12:15; August 17th – 10:50 – 12:50; August 29th – 9:15 – 11:15.

June 18, 2008

Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements:

Jerry Masters convened the meeting at 6:36 p.m. Minutes were approved for both the April meeting and May Retreat.

Dawn Lawrence gave a quick announcement and fashion show of the new MRC apparel. The logo will remain the same embroidery, but there are more clothing options including: polo shirts, pima knits, mesh knits, denim shirts, wind shirts, quarter zip sweat shirts, fleece vests, sandwich bill cap, or a cage jacket. If interested in ordering any of these items, please contact Dawn Lawrence at (425) 239-8349. Dawn will be putting her first order in by June 30th.

Chrys Bertolotto announced the dates for the Free Mukilteo Lighthouse Park Beach educational opportunities at low tide with the WSU Beach Watcher naturalists:

June 20th – 11:40 – 1:40
July 4th – 11:20 – 1:20
July 5th – 12:00 – 2:00
July 17th – 10:00 – 12:00

August 1st – 10:15 – 12:15
August 17th – 10:50 – 12:50
August 29th – 9:15 – 11:15

Alan Mearns passed along thoughts in an e-mail to the MRC regarding a seminar he attended about the work of Elizabeth North at the University of Maryland and the use of hydrodynamic, transport, ecological and oyster life history models to stimulate oyster production under various management and restoration options in the Chesapeake Bay. Alan was impressed by her integrated approach, and although oysters aren't a focus of the Snohomish MRC, here in Snohomish County we have resources of concern with mobile life stages, and we could benefit from this type of analysis, especially with the modeling work Batelle has already done in Port Susan.

Stef Frenzl announced that Chet Motekaitis is resigning from the MRC due to health concerns. Stef will distribute a request for applications to fill his position within the next week. Stef will distribute a card at the July MRC meeting for MRC members to sign, and Dawn is accepting donations to buy an MRC shirt as a thank you gift. More details to come at the July MRC meeting.

MRC Project Updates:

Beach Expos

Three beach expos have been planned this year:

June 21st at Picnic Point County Park from 11-2;

July 19th at Mukilteo Lighthouse Park from 11-2;

and August 2nd at Kayak Point County Park from 10:30 – 1:30.

The MRC is taking a co-lead on coordinating service learning work parties at both Picnic Point and Kayak Point for Sound Stewards during these expos. Other partnerships include People for Puget Sound, WSU Beach Watchers, Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Taskforce, and Puget Soundkeepers Alliance. Due to the Mukilteo Lighthouse Park construction, the event will be on the beach and will be just WSU Beach Watcher and Snohomish County MRC representation.

If you're interested in volunteering at any of these events, please contact Amy Johnson at amy.johnson@co.snohomish.wa.us or (425)388-3464 x4573.

Derelict Gear Removal

Removal efforts for the derelict crab pot project using contracted divers occurred from May 4, 2008 – May 10, 2008. MRC members were invited to participate on the boat for either half day or full day excursions. Amy Johnson participated on May 8, and assisted in removing approximately 30 derelict crab pots, with the assistance of a WSU Beach Watcher volunteer in the morning. On May 7, KOMO 4 News reported on the story: <http://www.komonews.com/news/local/18751314.html>.

Kayak Point

Kayak Point monitoring training is scheduled for Friday, June 20, from 9:30 – 2:00 at the Warm Beach Community Church and Kayak Point. If you'd like to be involved, RSVP with Chrys Bertolotto. The monitoring sessions are scheduled for July 17th and 18th, and August 1st and 16th from approximately 9:30 – 1:30. The purpose of the monitoring is to collect pre-restoration data including: elevation measurements along the beach, and looking carefully at sediment types, beach shape, vegetation, and algal cover. Chrys Bertolotto is also training the Edmonds Community College Learn and Serve Environmental Anthropology Field (LEAF) School students to participate in monitoring.

A \$168,000 contract for feasibility and design, public opinion research, outreach, permit acquisition and monitoring has been sent to Council for approval. The amended contract will also include conducting a sea level rise assessment. Feasibility and Design Alternatives are anticipated for completion by July 30th. 30% and 50% design options are anticipated for completion by fall/winter 2008. Construction is now anticipated for June 15, 2009 at the earliest, as the construction window and funding needs limit our ability to work earlier. Total construction costs depend on the chosen alternative, with the most likely alternative estimated at \$350,000-\$400,000. These funds have not yet been obtained.

Staff plans to apply for ESRP funds for this project this year. Paul Cereghino from Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership plans to present at an upcoming MRC's meeting for more information on how we can maximize our chances for full project funding. There is also an ESRP workshop scheduled on June 30th at the Everett Public Library from 10:00-1:00. Staff is planning on attending.

People For Puget Sound has submitted a proposal to the UW Environmental Management Graduate Certificate Keystone Project to implement a well-coordinated community involvement and outreach component to the project. If awarded, up to 6 or 7 graduate students would participate in the project from January-June 2009, and would include community charettes to develop community support for a longer-term park plan. We have heard initial response that the review panel is highly interested in participating. If awarded, MRC Staff is proposing to use approximately \$10,000 of the additional NWSC funds to support this effort (\$5,000 for UW, and \$5,000 to help cover supplies, outreach materials, and additional costs).

Staff has also been communicating with Dept of Ecology and Department of Natural Resources, which have both expressed an interest in helping to fund construction costs. DNR plans to contribute at least \$25,000 to the program, and we will be eligible to apply for \$50,000 in funds from Ecology through a streamlined process with a high chance of receiving funds.

Ph:arm Takeback Program

The workshop took place on April 18, 2008 in SeaTac, Washington, with 85 individuals representing a diverse set of interests, including environmental groups, state legislators, pharmaceutical manufacturer lobbyists, and healthcare professionals. It was the first opportunity for all the stakeholders to come together and share ideas, concerns, and updates on the PH:ARM Pilot Project. The workshop received a lot of positive feedback. Most participants were willing to assist with outreach and education to the public, drug companies, legislators, etc, and some were also willing to support legislation and

researching funding sources for a long-term program. The MRC's assistance with this project is now complete.

As of April 2008, more than 7,500 pounds of consumer-packaged drugs have been collected. Bartell Drugs opened its first collection site, and will soon expand to 10 collection sites around Puget Sound. Two boarding/nursing homes will also begin accepting unwanted medicines soon. On June 18th, the Ph:arm Team sent out a press release announcing that their partnership with Group Health won an "Effective Partnership Award" from the Northwest Chapter of the North American Hazardous Materials Management Association.

Mussel Watch

Winter sampling occurred on March 12, 2008 for Hat Island. We were fortunate enough to have the assistance of the Sheriff's boat, because we would have been unable to sample this location without the use of their zodiac. We were also scheduled to sample Eide Road, but due to a large mussel die-off, we decided to let the site sit for a while. Instead, we had the Stillaguamish Tribe sample Kayak Point, and we funded the lab analysis.

We have received data for the Summer '07 sampling, as well as the 2006 PAH data from NOAA. Alan Mearns compiled and analyzed the data for the presentation to the NWSC in April. He completed an extensive PowerPoint presentation highlighting trends in PAHs, PCBs, PBDEs, and pesticides. Preliminary results indicate a potential difference in winter and summer PAH levels, as well as geographical differences. Dieldrin, a banned pesticide, was found at high levels at Eide Road, with fairly low levels at the rest of the sites. If interested in viewing this PowerPoint, contact Amy Johnson at amy.johnson@co.snohomish.wa.us or (425) 388-3464 x 4573.

We recently learned that NOAA has cut all funding for the nation-wide Mussel Watch program due to funding constraints. We are still currently assessing how this will affect our local program. We are currently working with the NWSC to determine ways of bringing back funding, at least regionally. Potential options were presented to the NWSC in April, but as of now, we are still unsure of the status of the national program.

Alan Mearns will continue to synthesize the recent and incoming Mussel Watch data as a volunteer, but we need a plan for training others to also synthesize and report data. He would like to see it as an action item in the MRC strategic plan. If you're interested in being involved, please let Amy know.

Escape Cord Education

July 2nd is opening day for crabbing season, and WSU Beach Watchers will be out in full force from July 2-5th at various boat launches around the County handing out escape cord education cards, while wearing cute crab hats. They'll have teams of 2-3 people from 7 am to around 11. Volunteers will be either asking survey questions to measure the effectiveness of the program, or educating crabbers while distributing the cards. Sites include: Edmonds Boat Launch, Everett Boat Launch, Kayak Point County Park, and Dagmar's Marina. If interested in volunteering, contact Chrys Bertolotto at chrys@wsu.edu or (425) 357-6020.

Public Comment

Stillaguamish salmon recovery coordinator, Sean Edwards, reported that Tom Cowan started interviewing people this week for the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area (MSA) investigation. On June 11th the Stillaguamish Implementation Review Committee (SIRC) also endorsed the project charter for the Lower Stillaguamish Initiative. This summer a SIRC Subcommittee will work with Snohomish County and The Nature Conservancy to involve stakeholders, define natural resource and

socioeconomic priorities for the lower Stillaguamish River floodplain and estuary west of I-5, and identify threats to the priorities. The Subcommittee will report progress to the SIRC in the fall. Sean Edwards will continue to participate in the Port Susan MSA and Lower Stillaguamish Initiative to help ensure that they are integrated.

Dawn Lawrence asked about the diversity of representation involved in the SIRC. The SIRC includes a wide mix of stakeholders ranging from flood control, farming, bird conservation, tribal, city, etc. All stakeholders are welcome to participate in the Lower Stilly Initiative. Contact Sean for more information about how to get involved (425-388-3464 x4669).

Local and Regional Clam Die-offs

Alan Mearns was unable to attend the MRC meeting. Staff read an email he sent aloud at the meeting:

“Native littleneck clams have been disappearing from sites in Alaska, BC, and here. Currently my colleague Gary Shigenaka is investigating and looking for clam monitoring data. Looks like they are gone from Edmonds as well. Regardless of what we learn, I want to make sure that the MRC brings clams into their ecosystem view, as resources of concern. For example, our shorebirds may be dependent on healthy clam populations. I seriously overlooked clams when we were doing our review of resources at risk several years ago (except from the standpoint of coliform bacteria). More to come from Gary regarding the Littlenecks. I sent Stef some information we got from WDFW personnel, including observations of a clam die off in 2001 at Kayak.”

Snohomish-Camano Nearshore Cooperative Update

Chrys Bertolotto presented an update on the activities of the Nearshore Cooperative (“Cooperative”), an ad-hoc committee developed in 2005 of 16 organizations whose purpose was to expand stewardship and educational opportunities. So far the Cooperative has been very successful, and is in the process of signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The City of Everett, City of Edmonds, and the WSU Beach Watchers have signed so far.

In the fall, with the leadership of Snohomish County SWM, the Cooperative was able to receive funding and hire a consultant/facilitator to hold a two-day retreat. At the retreat, Cooperative members, land managers, public agencies, and project managers. The goal of the retreat was to identify stewardship, restoration, and acquisition gaps in projects for the nearshore environment. We determined 3 project areas: monitoring and research needs, with Todd Zackey and Maria Calvi as the leads; develop and prioritize key outreach materials, with Chrys Bertolotto being the lead; and package projects to leverage resources and streamline efforts.

The challenge with the Nearshore Cooperative is that members have full time jobs in addition to helping with the committee. There’s energy for creating projects, but so far there hasn’t been much leadership. Chrys will be stepping down as Chair in October, and Chris Wilke will be taking over from there. There’s a role the MRC can play in taking on some leadership responsibilities.

- Stef Frenzl mentioned that there was a lot of important ideas and information coming out of the Nearshore Retreat Report. It’s a good idea to look at the consistencies between this report and our strategic plan, and look at how our priorities can feed into their work. We have limited paper copies available, but we have multiple disks, and can send those out to those interested. Lincoln, Mark, Daryl, Jerry, Mary, and Dawn.
- The maps in the report are especially helpful – they have the project numbers and locations and they’re linked up to spreadsheets so you can see the details. Stef Frenzl showed these maps to TNC when they inquired about ideas for spending additional funding in our region.

- Jerry Masters suggested looking at the database of our MRC recruitment contacts and seeing if we can bring in Cooperative members to participate in the MRC's projects.

Working Group Sessions

The three goal area groups met up in breakout sessions to review their goal sheets and determine priorities for objectives and strategies. They were then color-coded based on priority levels (green = high; yellow = medium; orange-red = low). The semi-finalized goal sheets are included at the end of this summary.

World Café Rounds

After the groups met within their own working group, each working group rotated to the two other groups' worksheets to get familiar with the other goals. Members also identified (or became aware of) the level of overlap between the three goal areas in preparation of the strategic plan development.

Next Steps

Stef asked the MRC members to begin thinking about ways to ensure the overlaps between the goal areas don't get overlooked when developing projects. This will be important when developing our organizational structure, which will be a topic of discussion at our next MRC meeting.

8:45 Adjourn

Goal: Sustain and Enhance Organizational Impact

Background/commentary/keywords about this goal:

Who: MRC Chair, Vice Chair, NWSC Representative, Subcommittee Chairs and Staff

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES
<p>How will we achieve this goal? What SMART objectives do we want to accomplish in the next 10 years to help achieve this goal?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Where, When, What, Why</p>	<p>How are we going to accomplish this objective (write in the key strategies here and milestones)?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">How - Big Picture</p>	<p>What activities are needed to be accomplished over time to achieve the strategy and by when (refer Program Structure sheet)?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">How</p>
<p>Obj 1. Enhance strategic coordination and collaboration</p>	<p>1.1: Understand our organizational environment</p>	
	<p><i>1.1a Map and track our overall environment to find our overlap with other programs (MRC's role compared with our partner's roles)</i></p>	<p>Develop agency/partner database enabling searches of multiple attributes</p>
	<p>1.2: Identify and develop strategic partnerships to leverage our work/impact with organizations (People, Politics, Projects)</p>	
	<p><i>1.2a: People: Extend partnerships outside present associations to other state and fed agencies, businesses, etc for new approaches to develop public awareness and vested interest in marine issues</i></p>	
	<p><i>1.2b: Politics: Increase effort to broaden and improve involvement and cooperation with local and tribal government</i></p>	
	<p><i>1.2c: Projects: Develop uncommon partnerships to implement projects (BNSF, US Navy, Boeing, etc)</i></p>	
	<p><i>1.2d: Projects: Strengthen collaboration with existing partners to implement projects (PS Keepers Alliance, NOAA, WDOE, etc)</i></p>	<p>Increase MRC role in the Nearshore Cooperative and better utilize volunteer possibilities to implement projects</p>
	<p><i>1.2e: Projects: Partner with other agencies/Tribes to access technical expertise and utilize their staff to conduct MRC projects</i></p>	<p>Partner with PS Keeper's Alliance to review WDOE-NPDES permit update to reduce point sources where appropriate</p>
		<p>Partnering with other agencies, develop joint approach to address extensive shoreline modifications and railroad [how to address overlap with Marine Health goal]</p>
		<p>Utilize tech and scientific experts to identify unacceptable point pollution and work with our relevant partners to develop an outreach strategy targeting the general public that addresses NPS pollution impacts</p>
	<p>1.3: Identify & integrate emerging issues and opportunities with support from partners</p>	
<p><i>1.3a: Make formal comment/recommendations on key issues/opportunities in coordination with partners</i></p>		
<p><i>1.3b: Prioritize opportunities based on alignment with MRC mission and level of partnership leverage</i></p>		
	<p>1.4 Evaluate and Feedback?</p>	
<p>Obj 2. Ensure Organizational health and capacity</p>	<p>2.1: Develop an organizational structure to support strategies 2.2-2.5.</p>	<p>Develop a plan and structure identifying responsibilities of MRC members and staff</p>

2.2: Develop and implement a member recruitment and training program	Develop and maintain member recruitment list and ensure diversity
	Develop and conduct a training program
	Maintain member handbook
	Establish clear roles and responsibilities for all MRC member positions
	Identify subcommittee needs & new structure
2.3: Ensure high caliber staffing of MRC	Ensure staff skill sets are diverse and comprise a combination of technical, group facilitation and project management skills
	Utilize interns as necessary to accomplish work plan
	Conduct performance evals of SWM staff and MRC members
	Promote continued supervision and support for MRC Lead Staff
2.4: Maintain supporting resource base for effectiveness	
<i>2.4a: Financial: strive for long-term predictability of core funding and increase supplemental funding to expand work programs</i>	Work to ensure consistent core funding (County & NWSC)
	Supplemental funding: increase capacity to secure and manage additional grants, private contributions, etc
	Strive for long-term predictability of funding sources
<i>2.4b: Political: cultivate relationships to build support for and facilitate implementation work plan</i>	Establish quarterly reporting to Council & Exec
<i>2.4c: Partnerships: seek involvement of key groups (WSU Beach Watchers, Sound Stewards, etc) to expand capacity</i>	
<i>2.4d: Institutional Knowledge: Maintain organizational continuity to ensure continual progress on strategic and work plans</i>	Document and support institutional knowledge from staff and MRC Members to provide continuity
2.5: Conduct performance evaluation of work plans and adaptively manage the organization based on capacity	Track progress with strategic plan quarterly/semi-annually
Obj 3. Provide visible, credible, effective and informed guidance on projects and issues to key audiences	3.1: Visibility: Maintain high visibility to key decision makers and community partners
	Cultivate relationships

Goal: Advance the Health of the Marine Ecosystem in Snohomish County

Background/commentary/keywords about this goal:

Protect, Restore, Research, Evaluation, Coordination - these key words need to fit in objectives

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	
<p>How will we achieve this goal? What SMART objectives do we want to accomplish in the next 10 years to help achieve this goal?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Where, When, What, Why</p>	<p>How are we going to accomplish this objective (write in the key strategies here and milestones)?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">How - Big Picture</p>	<p>What activities are needed to be accomplished over time to achieve the strategy and by when (refer Program Structure sheet)?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">How</p>	
<p>HIGH Obj 1. Protect & restore marine habitat and species in Snohomish County and continually adapt actions to new information and new opportunities</p>	<p>HIGH 1. Set protection and restoration priorities based on results of risk assessment in Strategy 3.1 using criteria such as perceived threats, partnership opportunities, public visibility, funding, feasibility, and council support.</p>	<p>1. Complete Candidates Sites Analysis</p> <p>2. Address and prioritize emerging opportunities as appropriate and feasible</p>	
	<p>HIGH 2. Implement priority actions as determined by Strategy 1.1 and 3.1</p>		
	<p><i>HIGH 2a. Protect and restore nearshore habitat processes and structure and promote healthy, diverse, and abundant native species and habitat.</i></p>	<p>1. Kayak Point</p> <p>2. Picnic Point</p> <p>3. Jetty Island</p> <p>4. Shoreline modifications</p>	
	<p><i>MED 2b. Protect and monitor dungeness crab population, restore their habitat, and promote sound fishing practices.</i></p>	<p>1. Monitor juvenile crab density along marine shoreline</p> <p>2. Identify and map gravid female habitat use [Stef needs to talk to Don V.]</p> <p>3. Derelict Gear Removal Project</p> <p>4. Support partner's research on D. crab population viability (sperm plug counts?)</p>	
	<p><i>LOW 2c. Monitor invasive species and support research and removal efforts.</i></p>	<p>1. Support WDFW and WSU Beach Watchers in monitoring European Green Crab population</p> <p>2. Track spartina in Snohomish County</p> <p>3. Tunicates</p>	
	<p><i>MED* 2d. Promote projects that provide opportunities for public involvement and public visibility. [Note: * Medium priority because it's included already in community stewardship piece]</i></p>	<p>[Community Stewardship?]</p>	
	<p>MED 3. Investigate feasibility, appropriateness, and need for MPA & MSA areas</p>	<p>1. Port Susan MSA</p>	
	<p>HIGH 4. Evaluate and monitor activities to ensure goal effectiveness</p>	<p>1. Ensure all activities in Obj 1 include project/goal effectiveness monitoring</p>	
	<p>HIGH Obj 2. Protect and restore water quality in Snohomish County and adapt recommendations to new information and opportunities</p>	<p>HIGH 1. Set protection and restoration priorities based on results of risk assessment in Strategy 3.2 using criteria such as perceived threats, partnership opportunities, public visibility, funding, feasibility, and council support.</p>	
		<p>HIGH 2. Implement priority actions as determined by Strategy 2.1 and 3.2</p>	
<p><i>HIGH 2a. Protect and restore water</i></p>		<p>1. LID projects [LOW priority]</p>	

	quality through on-the-ground efforts.	2. Creosote log removal
	MED* 2b. Improve water quality through education and promote projects that provide opportunities for public involvement and public visibility. [Note: * Medium priority because it's included already in community stewardship piece]	[Community Stewardship?]
	HIGH 3. Identify and monitor water quality indicators	1. Mussel Watch
		2. BEACH
		3. Map and monitor inputs to the marine environment from streams, pipes, discharges, etc
	HIGH 4. Evaluate and monitor activities to ensure goal effectiveness.	1. Ensure all activities in Obj 2 include project effectiveness monitoring
HIGH Obj 3. Research, evaluate, and monitor to inform and guide our priorities and actions to adapt to new information and opportunities	HIGH 1. Generate risk assessment of marine habitat and species to be used in prioritizing actions in objectives 1 and 2.	1. Review existing research and status reports of marine resources
		2. Coordinate Marine Managers Workshop
		3. Develop Risk Assessment Report
	HIGH 2. Generate risk assessment of marine and upland water quality to be used in prioritizing actions in objectives 1 and 2.	1. Identify current status and trends
		2. Identify sources of water quality issues/problems
		3. Improve our understanding of threats and impacts to water quality
	MED 3. Track and conduct research and monitoring to emerging issues that fit within our goals and objectives	1. Food web interaction research
	MED 3a. Consider climate change impacts and address them in our projects as appropriate and feasible.	1. Sea level rise
		2. Food web interactions
		3. Priority recommendations to County Council/Exec
MED 3b. Monitor actions taken by state, or other agencies, to address development impacts on marine habitat and species.		
HIGH 4. Coordinate and prioritize our activities in consideration of existing initiatives and other agencies to be more effective in accomplishing goals and adapt recommendations to new information		1. Investigate opportunities in coordination with: PSP, NWSC, MRCs, Island Cty, and other agencies
HIGH 5. Implement feedback strategy for objective, strategy, and activity effectiveness		1. Conduct a short-term project related evaluation annually
		2. Conduct a long term goal, strategy, and activity related evaluation every 3-5 years

Goal: Integrate the Community in Actions

Background/commentary/keywords about this goal:

Who: newly formed working group: Chrys, Lily, Chris, Tom, others? (Tom has expressed interest in the media aspect of these activities. Other suggestion: split outreach activities by person for each of the four prioritized topics from the Marine Env. Health group: D. Crab, Nearshore, Inv. spp, & water quality)

*The outreach group stated that regardless of where the outreach objectives end up being organized, it makes sense to keep a group of people (a subcommittee) to guide the implementation of its activities

*The outreach groups activities will be informed by the resource priorities set by the Health of the Marine Resources group

*The MRC Organizational Health group may want to pass the "MRC branding" activities to the Outreach subcommittee

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES
How will we achieve this goal? What SMART objectives do we want to accomplish in the next 10 years to help achieve this goal?	How are we going to accomplish this objective (write in the key strategies here and milestones)?	What activities are needed to be accomplished over time to achieve the strategy and by when (refer Program Structure sheet)?
Where, When, What, Why	How - Big Picture	How
<p>1. Increase community awareness and stewardship in targeted communities in western Snohomish County in order to improve marine resource health, specifically to support the priorities established by the Health of the Marine Ecosystem team.</p> <p>Note: This objective is guided by the objectives of the Health of the Marine Ecosystem team: current priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to improve water quality, - to protect Dungeness Crab, - to restore and enhance privately owned nearshore structures and processes, and - to prevent the establishment of invasive species 	1. Prioritize outreach efforts with guidance from the Health of the Marine Ecosystem Team	<p>1. Review and incorporate priorities from Health of the Marine Environment Team by reviewing their plans and holding annual joint committee meetings.</p> <p>2. Select the priorities that will produce the greatest results with the least amount of personnel time</p>
	2. Narrow target audiences in the context of existing programs and identified marine resource priorities.	<p>1. ID missing audiences (e.g. crab pot manufacturers or commercial and tribal crab fisheries)</p> <p>2. Prioritize outreach outcomes and selected audiences every two years or more frequently.</p>
	3. Encourage practices that protect and restore marine resources to targeted audiences (businesses, schools, targeted communities/individuals)	<p>1. Workshops</p> <p>2. Examine options and select one model to provide technical assistance programs for landowners (Bainbridge Island model or Sno. Cty Basin Steward?)</p>
	4. Strategically develop and distribute digestible audience-targeted and issue-based outreach products.	<p>1. Analyze and strategize messages related to other outreach activities from other organizations</p> <p>2. ID educational resource gaps</p> <p>3. Create distribution plan based on available funds and resources.</p> <p>4. Develop and distribute new materials and potentially widen distribution of existing materials that are underutilized.</p> <p>5. Develop a brochure for public awareness of projects the MRC is addressing to ensure a healthy, enduring and accessible Puget Sound ecosystem</p> <p>6. Develop presentations to be used for community outreach and partnership support.</p>
	5. Continue to support existing relevant partner programs (e.g. WSU Beach Watchers & Shore Stewards)	<p>1. Delegate funding to continue relevant existing and new programs</p> <p>2. Provide personnel support to programs</p> <p>3. [Unsure where this fits, also listed in 4.1.3] Provide leadership to Nearshore Cooperative as a way to keep marine resource partnerships growing (or try to bring that energy under MRC umbrella??)</p>
	6. Increase connections with additional relevant partner agencies	<p>1. Establish water quality outreach partnerships: e.g. UW Environmental Health & Oceans Program, Puget Soundkeepers Alliance</p> <p>2. Establish private nearshore restoration partnerships: e.g. Snohomish Conservation District, local land trusts?</p> <p>3. Establish invasive species prevention partnerships: e.g. Marine Invasive Species Monitoring Program through DFW / Nahkeeta NW, , NW Indian Fisheries Invasive Species project</p> <p>4. Other suggested partnerships: community colleges, corporate community awareness campaigns, Edmonds Rangers Naturalists</p>

<p>2. Identify cultural, economic, recreational, community-based, and human consumption and health values of marine resources and integrate into educational programs outlined in objective 1.</p> <p>3. Monitoring and measuring effectiveness and direction of outreach programs and making necessary adjustments</p>	<p>1. Identify and prioritize distinct regional areas of focus especially west of I-5 with an emphasis on common values (e.g. Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area)</p>	<p>1. Connect to Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area and use as guide for future marine stewardship area approaches</p>
	<p>2. Determine the community values of marine resources for priority regional areas</p>	<p>1. Compile use types of marine resources</p> <p>2. Ideas: Surveys, interviews, public opinion research, review existing research like the PSMMA interviews</p>
	<p>3. Integrate community values of resources into water quality programs in targeted communities to encourage pollution prevention.</p> <p>[Water quality programs were chosen as a focused starting point]</p>	<p>1. Provide information to media on more frequent basis about human aspects of clean water in our communities.</p> <p>2. Incorporate community values into outreach messages with all projects (for example - talking about MORE crabs to crabbers versus environmental loss if they don't use escape cord).</p>
	<p>1. Provide support or guidelines to project managers in terms of prioritized education and outreach</p>	<p>1. Develop a criteria to prioritize projects for outreach activities</p>
		<p>2. Provide guidance and support to project managers in terms of level and type of outreach activities recommended</p>
	<p>2. Share outreach results of projects to all MRC members and partners on a regular basis.</p>	<p>1. Complete quarterly outreach report (by committee members) to MRC and interested community members (posted on website and circulated at meetings / email distribution list..</p>
		<p>2. Request 10 minutes on all MRC agendas to update committee on past and upcoming activities and 'breaking' news..</p>
	<p>3. Incorporate effectiveness monitoring into outreach activities when possible using appropriate tools based on what is being measured, funding available, end uses, etc (participant surveys, interviews, 'numbers' tracking and analysis, intercept surveys, partner questionnaires, etc.).</p>	<p>1. Determine outreach evaluation elements for all MRC projects prior to project start.</p>
		<p>2. Develop standard evaluation tools, if possible, for all MRC outreach efforts.</p>
		<p>3. Develop customized evaluation tools for special projects.</p>
<p>4. Implement and Report back.</p>		
<p>4. Maintain and enhance community volunteer involvement and participation</p> <p>[How does this fit in with obj 1 & 3 and with objectives in Goal 3-Marine Health?: through action items that provide the community with a sense of being involved and making a difference in the Health of the Marine Ecosystem and by linking the MRC, partners and community to enhancement and protection goals]</p>	<p>1. Promote partnerships that will result in volunteer-coordinated public land nearshore or estuarine habitat restoration projects (e.g. PFPS Sound Stewards, Task Force, LEAF School, etc.)</p>	<p>1. Create list of potential leadership entities and solicit their leadership in specific areas.</p>
		<p>2. Provide funding or help to secure funding to work on MRC priority projects.</p>
		<p>3. Provide leadership to Nearshore Cooperative as a way to keep marine resource partnerships growing (or try to bring that energy under MRC umbrella??)</p>
	<p>2. Determine and prioritized project areas that would best benefit from volunteer support (e.g. invasive species identification, stranded mammal network, etc.)</p>	<p>1. Recruit WCC intern or dedicated staff who will manage targeted volunteer programs for MRC. In 08-09, focus on invasive species, water quality and habitat restoration.</p>
	<p>3. Develop a volunteer list and provide a conduit to connect volunteers to partners and projects based on need and interest.</p>	<p>1. Maintain a list of all interested and past volunteers.</p>
		<p>2. Distribute periodic notices about MRC and partner projects to potential volunteers.</p>
		<p>3. Maintain volunteer involvement numbers (hours, number of participants, etc.)</p>
	<p>4. Create a Volunteer grants program to solicit activities that support MRC Outreach / Habitat and Species and Communications Work Areas.</p>	<p>1. Determine financial and contracting reality of such a program.</p>
		<p>2. If feasible / appropriate, create grant solicitation guidelines.</p>
		<p>3. Solicit, award and monitor accepted projects.</p>

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, July 16, 2008, 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, Vice Chair
Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Representative
Daryl Williams
Thomas Hoban
Mary Cunningham
Lincoln Loehr
Jared Bond
Dena Peel

MRC Members Absent

Jerry Masters, Chair (excused)
Jen Sevigny, (excused)
Chet Motekaitis (excused)
Chrys Bertolotto (excused)

Staff, Presenters and Others

Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM
Amy Johnson, Snohomish County SWM, WCC IP
Dale Anderson, David Evans and Associates
John Boettner, Ecosystems First
Sasha Horst, NWSC
Mike Ramsey, PSNRP
Melina Gray, AMEC

Summary of Decisions

- MRC Meeting Summaries for June meeting was approved.

Follow-Up Items

- August MRC meeting will be a potluck with the Island County MRC; to be held on August 19, 2008.

Upcoming Events

- Final Beach Expos: Mukilteo Lighthouse Park – July 19, 2008, from 11:00 – 2:00; Kayak Point County Park – August 2, 2008 from 10:30 – 1:30.
- Whidbey Basin Action Agenda Meeting – July 22nd, 1-4pm, Mt. Vernon.
- Low Tide Days at the Beach with WSU Beach Watchers: Mukilteo Lighthouse Park: July 17th – 10:00 – 12:00; August 1st – 10:15 – 12:15; August 17th – 10:50 – 12:50; August 29th – 9:15 – 11:15.
- Stillaguamish Tribe's Festival of the River, River Meadows Park, Arlington, August 9-10th.
- Jetty Island Day of Caring, September 12th, 10:00 – 3:00.

July 16, 2008

Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of June Meeting Summary:

Dawn Lawrence convened the meeting at 6:32 pm, and welcomed the new members to the MRC: Lincoln Loehr, Dena Peel, and Jared Bond. Minutes were approved for the June meeting.

Staff Announcements

MRC Apparel

The MRC apparel arrived for those that had ordered them. Payments can be made to Dawn Lawrence. It is not too late to put in your order - contact Dawn at (425) 239-8349. Clothing options include: polo shirts, pima knits, mesh knits, denim shirts, wind shirts, quarter zip sweat shirts, fleece vests, sandwich bill cap, or a cage jacket.

MRC Cards

Three MRC cards were passed around: one to Terry Williams wishing him a speedy recovery from his recent illness; one for Chet Motekaitis who is resigning from the MRC due to health concerns; and one to Jen Sevigny who just announced she was resigning from the MRC due to a full work schedule. Jen still wants to be engaged in MRC projects, but cannot commit more time. Chet and Jen will both receive certificates of appreciation for their work on the MRC.

Kirby felt that Jen contributed a lot to the MRC, and losing her would be unfortunate. He suggested finding a way to help her out, because a half-time Jen would be better than no representation at all. Dawn is willing to meet with Stef and Jen to discuss options.

MRC Outreach Events

Upcoming MRC Outreach Events include:

Mukilteo Lighthouse Park Beach Expo: July 19th; 11-2

Kayak Point County Park Beach Expo: August 2nd, 10:30-1:30

Stillaguamish Tribe's Festival of the River: August 9-10th, 9-5

Jetty Island Day of Caring: September 12th, 10-3

MRC Potluck

The Island County MRC has invited the Snohomish County MRC to Clinton Beach Park for the annual MRC Potluck. The potluck will be held on Tuesday August 19, and Island MRC would like it to start at 3:30. The food is mostly taken care of, but Island County will get back to Stef on more details about what to bring. The conversation topic will be updates on the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area (PSMSA), including a summary of how the interviews went.

The MRC directed staff to request a start-time for the potluck at 4:30 or 5:00. Mary Cunningham suggested inviting other PSMSA working groups, and Stef Frenzl agreed to work with Island MRC on the details.

Snohomish County Executive Meeting

Jerry Masters and Dawn Lawrence will be meeting with the County Executive on Tuesday July 22nd. They will give him an update on projects, find out any concerns he may have, and maintain his awareness of the MRC work plan.

Public Comment

None

Presentation

Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership and the Estuary & Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP)

Mike Ramsey presented his work with the Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership, and the Estuary & Salmon Restoration Program. As part of the 2010 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), the Puget Sound Nearshore Partnership is currently working on a change analysis project, using a sound-wide data set, including shoreline classification, and shoreline processes, overlaid with digitized old historical documents showing the former. It's a planning and screening tool that helps to assess local landscapes for restoration priorities. This change analysis should be completed by the end of the year, and will hopefully line with the Puget Sound Partnership's Action Agenda. The results will be shared both with the restoration community and the public.

The ESRP will be issuing a request-for-proposal (RFP) in mid-August for another round of grant funding. If interested in pursuing restoration or protection projects, please contact Mike Ramsey. There's approximately \$12 million appropriation funds anticipated. Once the WRDA is complete, there may be more funding a few years from now.

Stef Frenzl mentioned that staff plans to apply for funding with People For Puget Sound to obtain funding for permitting, construction and monitoring expenditures for the Kayak Point nearshore restoration project.

Northwest Straits Commission Updates

Derelict Gear Removal

The NWSC is working on a capital campaign for the Derelict Gear Removal Project in the NW Straits. The goal is to remove 90% of the derelict gear by 2012, and \$5 million is needed in funds to complete the project. Ginny Broadhurst, Director of the NWSC, is starting an advisory committee to determine how many funds need to be raised, ideas for fundraisers, and how to evaluate priorities. If interested in participating in this group, please contact Ginny Broadhurst.

Salish Sea Naming Proposal

Western Washington University Professor Emeritus, Bert Webber, recently wrote a proposal to officially name the unnamed waters of Strait of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, and the Strait of Georgia, as the Salish Sea. The name would be acknowledged and recognized by both the US and Canadian Governments, and would help cohere the management efforts between them, and address the area as a whole. The NWSC is in support of the naming, but would like to get MRC feedback first.

Kirby Johnson asked if maps and nautical charts will need to be revised to reflect this change, and if so, would there be an extra expenditure. Stef replied that NWSC members familiar with the project did not believe that there would be any costs to the region to make this name change.

Jared Bond asked if maps aren't going to change, how will the public be affected? Sasha Horst responded that the outreach to the community, and general education will be more cohesive by looking at the Salish Sea as a whole. Eventually there could be an effort to include the name on maps. The Salish Sea is already listed on tribal maps.

The Snohomish County MRC approves this name change, assuming this action will not incur costs to the regional community. The Snohomish County MRC encourages the NWSC to ensure no costs will be incurred, and if none, encourages the NWSC to support the proposal.

Pinto Abalone

Jordan Watson, an independent volunteer, collaborated with local partner organizations, and created a poster to increase awareness about the Pinto abalone. Although Pinto abalone are not found in Puget Sound, recreational divers that may harvest the abalone are in Snohomish County. Amy Johnson passed around posters for MRC members to post at appropriate locations. MRC members were directed to go to www.pintoabalone.org for more information.

Strategic Planning – Review Draft #1

The first draft of the strategic plan was sent out to everyone on July 15, 2008. This meeting's discussion focused on looking at big picture concepts, with particular emphasis on guiding principles. The rest of the sections will be reviewed by the Strategic Planning Development Team (SPDT).

Developing guiding principles and shared values for our organization is important, because of how we use those core values to incorporate into community. When people ask why bother doing what we do, we can answer by showing how we integrate core values, and how the work we do helps to benefit themselves as well as their community. In preparation of the meeting, Stef incorporated the values and principles listed in Whole Measures, as a way of sparking discussion, to get feedback from MRC members.

MRC members were in agreement that the wording was too “touchy-feely” and too “fluffy;” however, the MRC generally agreed with the overall sentiments and importance, but the wording needs to be changed. There was also some concern about the length and complexity of the paragraphs, and perhaps brevity and simplicity would be better. Dena Peel and Dawn Lawrence volunteered to develop draft a new version of guiding principles and shared values to wordsmith them in a way conducive to all MRC interest.

MRC Organizational Structure

Stef Frenzl presented a draft structure, which included two new groups: the Executive Committee and the Project Working Group (PWG). The Exec committee would consist of the MRC Chair, Vice Chair, NWSC Rep, Staff, and Lead from the Project Working Group. The Project Working Group is for individuals who'd like to be more involved and focused on the projects, rather than the advisory role. The Project Working Group would have one lead who would be aware of all the projects, and would be involved in prioritizing projects when developing work plans with staff.

The MRC felt concerned that the PWG Lead was too large of a task, and no one would realistically be able to fit it in there schedule. They agreed that it would be best to better clarify the responsibilities of the PWG Lead.

The MRC felt that the work of the NWSC and the work of our partner organizations were overlooked in our structure. There should be a solid line connecting the MRC to the NWSC, and a dashed line connecting us to our partners.

The MRC directed the Strategic Planning Development Team to discuss future versions and propose an organizational structure in the draft Strategic Plan.

Summary and Next Steps

Staff anticipates that we are still on track for completing the Strategic Plan by the September MRC Meeting. The SPDT will work with MRC staff and our consultant to finalize a draft for review by the MRC in early September. During the September meeting, the MRC will review the plan, and discuss any final issues before approving the document with pending changes. After the meeting, MRC staff

will make any final changes if consultant contract has expired.

8:45 Adjourn

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

Draft Meeting Summary

Wednesday, September 17, 2008, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Snohomish County East Administration Building

Public Hearing Room, East

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201

<p>MRC Members Present Jerry Masters, Chair Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Representative Daryl Williams Thomas Hoban Chrys Bertolotto Mary Cunningham Lincoln Loehr Jared Bond Dena Peel</p> <p>MRC Members Absent Dawn Lawrence, Vice Chair (excused) Jen Sevigny, (excused)</p>	<p>Staff, Presenters and Others Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM Amy Johnson, Snohomish County SWM, WCC IP Keeley O'Connell, People For Puget Sound Chris Betchley, Citizen</p>
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Summary of Decisions

- MRC Meeting Summary for July meeting was approved.

Follow-Up Items

- Finalize priority actions for Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda, and send to Linda Lyshall by September 24, 2008.

Upcoming Events

- Mussel Watch Celebration; Alan Mearns Presentation: September 29, 2008, 6:30-8:30pm
- Northwest Straits MRC Training Conference, Port Angeles Red Lion Inn, November 7-8, 2008
- Starlight Beach Walks: Friday, January 9, 8-9:30, Kayak Point County Park, Stanwood; Friday February 6, 7-8:30, Olympic Beach, Edmonds.

Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of June Meeting Summary:

Jerry Masters convened the meeting at 6:32 pm.

Presentation

Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) Action Agenda Update

Linda Lyshall presented the updates on the PSP's Action Agenda. The Partnership is expecting to have a draft out in mid-October, with ongoing comment periods following; the Leadership Council will meet in November, and the final agenda is expected to be adopted on December 1st. The Action Agenda will lay out the current status and threats and strategic priorities both across Puget Sound, and within each Action Area. Within each strategic priority, they're further divided into three focal areas: protect ecosystem processes, restore ecosystem processes, and reduce water pollution. Within each of these areas, it's broken down into six

The Partnership will develop 25-40 strategic priority initiatives that are matched up with each Action Area. Funding will be from federal, state, and local organizations, with it likely incentive-based (i.e. gas tax). The projects will be funded through a feedback loop on Action Agenda to determine what needs to be protected, where, and who is responsible. Not focusing on funding, the Partnership is soliciting feedback from groups such as the MRC, WRIA, and salmon recovery forums to find out how they would prioritize the list of strategic initiatives.

Kirby Johnson commented that he felt the initiatives were too geographically constrained and need to be broader based. Keeley O'Connell responded that some of them were definitely more broad-based.

Mary Cunningham wondered about the Whidbey Basin Land Use Plan, and if the Partnership would be working on it. Linda responded that the idea is being considered, and the details of how to implement and who would be responsible is still being discussed. Daryl Williams suggested that due to the time it would take to implement, it should be a lower priority.

Kirby Johnson mentioned that the focus on salmon recovery seems to be in upland areas, rather than in the nearshore or offshore environments, and needs to be addressed in the priority actions. Daryl Williams mentioned that there are problems with bottom fish (such as hake or pollack) in the offshore environment. Stef Frenzl explained that in the Snohomish basin, there's flexibility to allow for nearshore projects, but in the Stillaguamish, they're considered low priority.

Mary Cunningham mentioned that the protection of marine birds is missing from the list, and Chrys Bertolotto added that it's very fish-centric; there's little focus on invertebrates, such as Dungeness crab. Stef mentioned that taking a multi-species approach would be a good idea. Kirby Johnson expressed his concern that most of the focus is on the biota, not human use concerns, such as shoreline access.

Chrys Bertolotto stated that addressing the issues of bulkheads and negotiating with railroads is a higher priority in our action area. She also wondered if there was interest and research in tidal energy, especially at Deception Pass. Linda and Daryl both mentioned that there has been some discussion and research to look at what's being done, how successful is it, etc. Stef Frenzl suggested that taking a precautionary approach on this subject would be a good idea.

Dena Peel suggested changing the wording of "cradle-to-grave" to "cradle-to-cradle" to ensure product responsibility during its lifecycle. Kirby Johnson mentioned that the wording should include

“maintaining” population levels, not just restoring, especially for species that aren’t necessarily a concern right now. Daryl Williams added that research and monitoring should be included for all of these too.

It was decided to continue thinking about the priority suggestions, and prioritize them into 3 tiers, and send them to Linda by Wednesday, September 24th. Also try to begin formulating them into goal and objective statements.

Stef Frenzl announced that the Puget Sound Partnership asked him to be a representative from Snohomish County MRC on the Community Implementation Task Force. This position will be for the next 2 ½ months, and he will be coming to the MRC for feedback, suggestions, and guidance. This will not impact his position as the MRC lead staff.

Staff Announcements

MRC Cards

Two cards were passed around for the MRC members to sign. One was for Amy Johnson, the WCC IP, whose term is up as of September 30th. The MRC will miss her dedication and passion to protecting the marine resources in Snohomish County, and wishes her well in the future. The other card was for Dawn Lawrence, who was recently diagnosed with an illness and will not be able to participate much with the MRC until early next year. Flowers will be sent to her, and MRC members were asked if they’d like to contribute. Mary Cunningham volunteered to deliver the flowers, and take over the coordination for the MRC apparel.

Public Comment

None

Northwest Straits Commission (NWSC) Representative – Alternate Election

Tom Hoban was nominated and elected to be the NWSC Representative Alternate, if Kirby Johnson, the current NWSC Representative cannot attend the meetings. New elections will begin in January.

Strategic Planning – Review Strategic Plan

Jerry Masters began with a discussion about the importance of prioritizing the MRC strategies given the reality of funding. The MRC has \$80K from the County Executive’s proposed budget, and \$90K from the NWSC. The maximum staff is 1.25 FTE, plus one full-time, one-year Washington Conservation Corps Individual Placement. The MRC needs to start thinking about what strategies we can feasibly accomplish given limited staff and monetary resources. The strategic plan itself will be broad and flexible to be adapt to changing priorities.

Mary Cunningham was concerned about water quality as being listed as a low priority. She feels that programs such as the Mussel Watch Program need to be continued with the MRC. Daryl Williams, Jerry Masters, and Chrys Bertolotto agreed that monitoring and risk assessment for water quality issues are important to complete.

Stef Frenzl engaged the MRC in a strategy-prioritization exercise based on funding, by allowing each MRC member to choose what action strategies they’d like to spend their portion of the annual budget on. Staff determined that funding to implement the Organizational Sustainability & Impact Goal would be approximately \$90,000 annually. MRC members present were each given \$10,000 to spend on strategic plan strategies to identify which were among the highest priority. Amounts allocated to each strategy will not be fixed, and were only used to understand MRC member priorities. Actual budgets for each strategy and activity will be determined during the biennial work planning process. MRC

members were required to identify themselves as a project lead to facilitate project implementation if they chose to place their allocated funding on a project without a pre-determined project lead. Results are included in Attachment A (requires 11"x17" paper).

Priorities from the original worksheet priorities were categorized by early action, longer-term horizon, ongoing and process strategy. The MRC recommended priorities be categorized by:

- 1) High priority strategies using significant contributions of MRC funds
- 2) High priority strategies leveraging minimal MRC funds with partnerships
- 3) Medium priority strategies
- 4) Ongoing strategies

These priority categories have been included in Attachment A.

9:00 Adjourn

ATTACHMENT A: MRC STRATEGIC PLAN STRATEGY PRIORITIZATION EXERCISE

					2009 Total	2009 Detail	2010 Total	2010 Detail	2011 Total	2011 Detail	2012 Total	2012 Detail	2013 Total	2013 Detail	
Advance Marine Ecosystem Health (Leads: _____)	1. Protect & restore marine habitat & species	1. Habitat Risk Assessment (HRA)													
		2. Set protection and restoration priorities													
		3. Implement priority actions ID'd from 1.2	Staff/_____												
		4. Protect and restore habitat	Staff/_____	Chrys, Kirby	25300	Chrys-5000, Kirby-5000, Unmarked(UM)-3300, UM-10000, UM-2000	17300	Kirby-5000, Unmarked(UM)-3300, UM-4000, UM-5000, UM-2000	20300	Chrys-2000, Unmarked(UM)-5000, UM-4000, UM-4000, UM-2000, UM-3300	16300	Chrys-4000, Unmarked(UM)-5000, UM-4000, UM-3300	8300	Unmarked-3300, Unmarked-5000	
		5. Protect and monitor crab population	Kirby	Kirby	13293	Kirby-5000, Unmarked-3300, Unmarked-4992.53	10300	Kirby-5000, Unmarked-3300, Unmarked-2000	8300	Unmarked-5000, Unmarked-3300	6300	Unmarked-3000, UNmarked-3300	3300	Unmarked-3300	
		6. Monitor invasive spp & removal efforts	Jared		10000	Jared-10000	15000	Jared-10000, Unmarked-5000	15000	Unmarked-5000, Unmarked-10000	15000	Unmarked-10000, Unmarked-5000	15000	Unmarked-10000, Unmarked-5000	
		7. Investigate MSA/MPAs	Mary	Dena, Chrys	6500	Dena-2500, Mary-4000	13000	Dena-5000, Chrys-5000, Mary-3000	3000	Unmarked-3000					
		8. Evaluate and monitor activities	Staff												
	2. Protect and restore WQ	1. WQ Risk Assessment by 2011	Lincoln		6000	Lincoln-3000, Unmarked-3000	3000	Lincoln-3000							
		2. Set WQ indicators and monitor	Mary		8400	Mary-3000, Umarked-3400, Unmarked-2000	8400	Umarked-3400, Unmarked-3000, Unmarked-2000	8400	Unmarked-3000, Unmarked-2000, Unmarked-3400	3400	Unmarked-3400	3400	Unmarked-3400	
		3. Set WQ improvement priorities	Lincoln				3000	Lincoln-3000	3000	Unmarked-3000	3000	Unmarked-3000			
		4. Implement priority WQ actions	Chrys				1000	Chrys-1000	3000	Chrys-3000	3000	Chrys-3000			

		5. Evaluate and monitor activities	Staff											
3. Research, evaluate, and monitor to better inform decisions and guide priorities	1. Research emerging issues	Lincoln		2.47	Lincoln-2.47									
	2. Monitor actions addressing development	Dena		5000	Dena-5000	2500	Dena-2500							
	3. Prioritize activities with existing initiatives													
	4. Implement feedback strategy	Staff												
Community In Action (Leads: Chrys & _____)	1. Increase community awareness	1. Prioritize outreach efforts biennially	Chrys		4000		4000		4000					
		2. Target audiences-existing programs												
		3. Encourage stewardship practices	Chrys	Dena, Kirby	8500	Chrys-4000, Dena-2500, Kirby-2000	3000	Chrys-3000	7000	Chrys-5000, Unmarked-2000	5000	Chrys-5000		
		4. Develop & distribute outreach products	Chrys				2000							
		5. Support existing partner programs	Dena				2500	Dena-2500						
		6. Build strategic partnerships												
2. Identify values: cultural, economic, recreational, etc.	1. ID and prioritize regional focus areas													
	2. Determine the community values													
	3. Community values-WQ programs													
3. Maintain and enhance community volunteer involvement and participation	1. Promote long-term partnerships	Chrys				Chrys-1000								
	2. ID prioritize volunteer project areas													
	3. Develop volunteer list-conduit													
	4. Create a volunteer grants program													
4. Monitor and measure effectiveness	1. Provide support/guidelines to project mgr	Chrys		1000		1000				1000				
	3. Outreach effectiveness monitoring													

		2. Share outreach results											
Organizational Sustainability & Impact (Leads: MRC Chair and Staff)	1. Enhance strategic coordination and collaboration	1.1: Map and track overall environment	Staff										
		1.2: ID and develop strategic partnerships	Chair/Staff										
		1.2a: People: Extend partnerships	Chair/Staff										
		1.2b: Politics: local/tribal govts	Chair/Staff										
		1.2d: Projects: Strengthen existing partners	Staff										
		1.2e: Projects: access technical expertise	Staff										
		1.3: Identify & integrate emerging issues	Staff										
		1.4 Implement evaluation mechanism	Chair/Staff										
	2. Ensure Organizational health and capacity	2.1: MRC org structure monitoring	Chair/Staff										
		2.2: member recruitment & training	Chair/Staff										
		2.3: High caliber staffing of MRC	Chair/Staff										
		2.4a: Financial: core/addl funding	Staff										
		2.4b: Political: cultivate relationships	Chair/Staff										
		2.4c: Partnerships: key groups	Staff										
		2.4d: Institutional Knowledge	Staff										

Color Key

High Priority Strategies- Use Significant Contributions of MRC Funds	Medium Priority Strategies
High Priority Strategies- Leverage Minimal MRC Funds with Partnerships	Ongoing Strategies

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)
Meeting Summary
Wednesday, October 15, 2008, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Snohomish County East Administration Building
Public Hearing Room, East
3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201

<p>MRC Members Present Jerry Masters, Chair Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Representative Chrys Bertolotto Thomas Hoban Mary Cunningham Lincoln Loehr Jared Bond Dena Peel</p> <p>MRC Members Absent Dawn Lawrence, Vice Chair (excused) Jen Sevigny, (excused) Daryl Williams (excused)</p>	<p>Staff, Presenters and Others Lily Wescott, Snohomish County SWM Michael Tillotson, Snohomish County SWM, WCC IP</p>
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<p>Summary of Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC Meeting Summaries for the September meeting were not yet prepared and will be submitted for approval at the November meeting.
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<p>Follow-Up Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NWSC Conference- November 7-8, 2008 at the Red Lion Inn in Port Angeles

<p>Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kayak Point Restoration Project Design Meeting, October 29th at 2:00-4:00pm, Willis Tucker Parks Dept Office south of Snohomish. Please contact Stef Frenzl at stef.frenzl@snoco.org to participate. Picnic Point Sound Stewards Work Party, November 1, 2008 from 10-2. Contact Keeley O'Connell, at koconnell@pugetsound.org. Starlight Beach Walk Event Friday January 9, 8-9:30, at Kayak Point County Park in Stanwood Starlight Beach Walk Event Friday February 6, 7-8:30, at Olympic Beach in Edmonds

Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of June Meeting Summary:

Jerry Masters convened the meeting at 6:35 pm, and welcomed Michael Tillotson, the new Snohomish County SWM Washington Conservation Corps Program Assistant. The September meeting minutes were not prepared yet and will be submitted for approval at the November meeting.

Staff Announcements

NWSC Conference Information

The NWSC conference is scheduled from Nov 7th and Nov 8th, 2008.

A carpooling sign-up sheet was circulated. Carpooling among MRC members to the November NWSC conference will be arranged via e-mail.

A travel expense reimbursement sheet will be circulated to MRC members. NWSC can only reimburse up to the following amounts:

- 1) Lodging - \$97.15
- 2) Travel (including ferry) - \$156.43

Travelers must keep your original receipts. Members are encouraged to make sure to receive a separate receipt for each traveler when riding the ferry or paying for hotels. No other expenses will be covered. NWSC will provide dinner on Friday and breakfast and lunch on Saturday.

Original receipts and signed, completed forms will be collected at the November MRC meeting. Forms not collected by December 5th will not be reimbursed.

Public Comment

WSU Beach Watchers Budget Request

Chrys Bertolotto announced a \$1 million biennial budget appropriation request by Washington State University to sustain the seven-county Beach Watchers program. Existing federal funding for this program is scheduled to expire on July 1, 2009 and will not be renewed.

WSU Beach Watchers Canvass Bags Available

Chrys Bertolotto announced a new fundraising effort by the WSU Beach Watchers. Re-usable canvass bags with the WSU Beach Watchers logo are available for \$7 each.

2009-2011 MRC Work Plan Brainstorming Activity

The MRC meeting participants self-selected into two groups to brainstorm project ideas for six of the objectives proposed in the Snohomish County MRC 2008 Strategic Plan. These six objectives were selected for discussion for two reasons:

- 1) At least one MRC identified themselves as a potential leader for the project
- 2) The objective received top "bids" during the voting exercise of the September MRC meeting

Group members were asked to brainstorm a list of projects and tasks to consider implementing under each objective. They were asked to keep in mind that these projects would need to be implemented under the direct guidance of an MRC member or group of MRC members. In addition participants were asked to consider which projects fulfill multiple goals and objectives within the strategic plan, which have higher capacity for partnerships or volunteer involvement, and which could be used to better leverage funds.

Ecosystem 1.5 Protect and monitor crab populations

Lead: Kirby Johnson

- Create I.D. tags for crab pots given at licensing/registration so that original owners could be identified
- Continue to fund derelict gear removal projects:
 - o Follow up on volunteer diver effort for identifying derelict gear locations
 - o Consider setting up a pilot project to disable pots rather than fully remove
- Distribute educational piece about rot cord at time of license issuance
- Investigate deep water recovery or disabling of pots
- Stilly/WDFW/Tulalips – partnership monitoring
- Selective trapping toward a specific size crab
- Data collection:
 - o Develop online reporting method
 - o Voluntary trip report

Ecosystem 1.6 Monitor invasive species & removal efforts

Lead: Jared Bond

- Tunicates
 - o Partner with the REEF program
 - o Monitor and report → establish recipient and plan for data use
 - o Removal left to experts (risk further spread if conducted by volunteers)
 - o Target isolated dive sites that don't receive much reporting
 - o GIS Mapping
- Spartina
 - o ID from surface via train, kayak, etc.
- Both Species
 - o Educational pamphlets
 - o Work Shops

Combined Discussion: Ecosystem 2.2 Set WQ indicators and monitor & Ecosystem 2.1 WQ Risk Assessment by 2011

Lead: Lincoln Loehr & Mary Cunningham

Background: the MRC will have two datasets available by 2009: results of Phase I compilation project and mussel watch data.

- Risk Assessment
 - o Identify trends from collected data sources (Lincoln Loehr & Alan Mearns)
 - o Identify glaring sources of water quality issues and problems (exceeding state standards, bioassay standards, 303d list)
 - o Identify water quality indicators that are **not** a problem
 - o Identify more questions
- Mussel Watch Program
 - o Continue Mussel Watch program – volunteers & staff
 - o Continue BEACH program (state funds) focus on education, shore info with cities or county jurisdiction

Combined Discussion: Ecosystem 1.7 Investigate MSA/MPAs & Community 1.3 Encourage stewardship practices

Lead: Mary Cunningham & Chrys Bertolotto

- Marine Stewardship Area
 - o Investigation

- Determine whether or not to move forward by March
- Would do:
 - Utilize MSA for conservation/promotion: presentation to communities on MSA (LID workshop focused with Sustainable Development Task Force as partner)
 - Go through assessment process to identify ways to protect resources that are accepted by community
 - Focus stewardship efforts in Port Susan
 - Determine how to proceed with City of Stanwood and legislators

Summary and Next Steps

This activity serves as the beginning step of work planning for the 2009 – 2011 NWSC grant funding cycle. A more thorough work planning process will begin in late 2008 or early 2009. Staff will present a final draft of the 2008 strategic plan document for MRC review during the November MRC meeting.

8:35 Adjourn

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee (MRC)

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, November 19, 2008, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Snohomish County East Administration Building

Public Hearing Room, East

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201

MRC Members Present

Jerry Masters, Chair
Kirby Johnson, NW Straits Representative
Chrys Bertolotto
Thomas Hoban
Mary Cunningham
Lincoln Loehr
Jared Bond
Dena Peel
Dawn Lawrence
Daryl Williams

MRC Members Absent

Jen Sevigny, (excused)

Staff, Presenters and Others

Stef Frenzl, Snohomish County SWM
Michael Tillotson, Snohomish County SWM, WCC IP
Keeley O'Connell, People for Puget Sound
Claire Atkins-Davis, Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries
Enhancement task Force
Zach Shirk – Washington Conservation Corps

Summary of Decisions

- MRC Meeting Summaries for the September and October meetings were approved by the committee.

Upcoming Events

- Starlight Beach Walk Event Friday January 9, 8-9:30, at Kayak Point County Park in Stanwood
- Starlight Beach Walk Event Friday February 6, 7-8:30, at Olympic Beach in Edmonds

November 19, 2008

Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of September and October Meeting Summaries:

Dawn Lawrence convened the meeting at 6:35 pm. The September meeting minutes received no comments and were approved. The October meeting minutes received no comments and were approved.

Public Comment:

Kelley O'Connell announced that there is one day left to comment on the Puget Sound Partnership action agenda. Dawn asked if Keeley thought there had been a lot comments. Stef Frenzl replied to Dawn saying that at the NWSC conference the Snohomish County MRC grouped with the Skagit and Island County MRCs to develop comments on the draft. Primarily the comments involved indicators. Other comments included making sure that the MRCs and NWSC were mentioned on relevant projects such as derelict fishing gear removal to give appropriate recognition for the Initiative's leadership in these roles.

Mary Cunningham asked if the MRC members could see these comments. Stef replied that the three big picture ones submitted would be available in an email.

Keeley pointed out that from the non-profit side the comments were no clear budget and no clear enforcement which were the same problems that plagued the Partnerships predecessor organizations.

Keeley made it known that People For Puget Sound is making a biological assessment in Edmonds spurred by DOT plan for Edmonds crossing. People seem to think that due to the state of the economy that it's not currently being considered anymore, but they still plan on moving the ferry terminal in the future. The assessment is funded through a private entity in Edmonds. Keeley offered to talk further with others if they are interested.

Staff Announcements

Chrys Bertolotto suggested that in place of a December MRC holiday party that members attend the WSU Beach Watcher Holiday party at the Jennings Park barn at 6:30pm on December 15th.

Stef acknowledged Dawn Lawrence for her five years of service to the MRC and presented her with a certificate that he received in her absence at the NWSC conference.

Stef announced that Kirby and Darryl's third terms are expiring, and plans for a party for early meetings of 2009 are underway.

Kirby expressed interest in staying involved with the committee and plans on being involved with the Dungeness crab work.

Daryl Williams explained that he has not decided on a replacement for himself

Shore Stewards Update:

Chrys announced that the Shore Stewards program received money last year which they've use hire someone to coordinate the program. She said that due to MRC support they have seen enrollment in Shore Stewards double recently. As a result they've been able to get monthly information to even

more people about shoreline and bluff homeowner issues. In the past week the program sent out a bulk mail for the first time in any Shore Stewards county. With money provided by ecology the program is coordinating to organize two bluff homeowner workshops. The first workshop will be held at Legion Hall in Everett on February 28th and the second at the new City Hall in Mukilteo on March 14th.

Chrys explained that Shore Stewards is still a program that's sharing good information and building awareness to promote stewardship. She expressed a hope that the program would see more results on the mailing next year.

Tom asked how much the mailing cost. Chrys responded that approx 3200 people mailed to within 500' of the shoreline and cost about 1000\$

Officer Elections:

Stef explained that per the MRC Bylaws (found in the MRC notebook) MRC officers are elected annually. He gave a brief reminder to all MRC members that elections will occur in January 2009, and asked for members to consider holding an office position. This past year, Jerry Masters has graciously served as Chairperson, Dawn Lawrence as Vice Chairperson, Kirby Johnson as the NWSC Representative and Tom Hoban and Stef Frenzl as the NWSC Alternates. The following are the general duties of each position. A more detailed description of the roles and responsibilities are outlined in the MRC bylaws (found in the MRC notebook).

MRC Chairperson- set MRC meeting agenda and location, preside over MRC meetings, communicate with staff, serve as the primary liaison to the County Executive & Council, ensure that issues are given reasonable consideration by the MRC and participate in organizational health strategy development meetings.

Jerry Masters suggested that we need to set up the vice chair/chair positions as a two year training opportunity. He sees a need to pick a vice chair that understands this so there is continuity for staff. He identified a need to think two or three years out in terms of county, staff and the council. He said that he's happy to serve again if that's what people want, but doesn't need to.

Jerry encouraged new members to step up. He said it's good for different people to go through it. Dawn supported the idea of bringing on someone slowly. Mary suggested that chair can learn how to lobby the county council by working up from a vice chair position

Jerry suggested that we think about who can feasibly lobby the council when we're voting. He said that communication and oversight/ monitoring of work as well as making new partnerships (the on the ground work) is the more important role for the chair. Not just meeting with Stef now and then.

Dawn said that she would like Jerry to stay at chair and supported the idea of a few other people to form an executive team.

Jerry said he would be happy to stay as chair. As far as the executive committee goes he explained that the MRC will still elect the chair, but if someone is vice chair they have the right to turn down the chair position. As chair he explained that he figured out the structure, but also figured out that projects and partners are more important. He said ideally he'd like someone else to be chair, but would like to be vice chair. He also noted the need to go show some good stuff to the county after going flat on the budget in such a bad year. People should email and get on the phone to establish a formal nomination group.

MRC Vice-Chairperson-the Vice Chairperson shall perform the duties of the chairperson at the chairperson's request, or in the absence of the chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall serve as an assistant to the Chairperson for the good of the organization. The Vice Chairperson shall also participate in Organizational Health strategy development meetings. Ideally, this position will serve as the training-ground for interested individuals in serving as MRC Chairperson; however, there is no commitment to serve as Chairperson if you run for this office position.

NWSC Representative & Alternates- The NWSC Representative shall attend and be an active participant in all NWSC meetings. The NWSC Representative shall prepare notes after each NWSC meeting for MRC members, and shall communicate and coordinate with staff on NWSC projects/programs/initiatives/actions that affect our MRC. Travel expenditures are reimbursed

Kirby explained that meetings are generally held on the last Friday of each month and generally run from 10:00am to 3:00pm. They alternate meetings through the seven counties, so the representative will be required to travel to the San Juan islands or to the Olympic Peninsula.. The County will reimburse all travel expenditures for the NWSC Representative or Alternate for each meeting. Meeting dates for 2009 are already scheduled.

Dawn expressed appreciation for the people who have taken this job and taken their time to travel and to report back. Kirby suggested that the same chair-vice chair training period be considered for this position. The alternate can learn from the representative and then take over the following year in order ease in to it. Jerry pointed out that we need to get at least one person out there for continuity because the NWSC sort of leans on the Snohomish MRC and its members for several reasons. Lincoln Loehr asked if multiple representatives can go. Kirby explained that many can go, but can't vote on behalf of the county if not elected.

Tom announced that he would like to be nominated as the representative. Lincoln expressed interest in the alternate position.

2009 Budget

Stef announced that while a lot of divisions in the county took budgetary cuts the MRC did not receive a cut in funding this year. The council acknowledged the importance of maintaining the budget for the Marine Resources Program. Starting in January the Program will be funded by Surface Water Management fees.

Tom asked if the MRC will still receive money from NWSC. Stef responded that the MRC currently received \$92,000 for FY2008 through the NWSC Grant, which is a non-competitive grant. NWSC has informed MRC staff that we should develop work plans for 2009-2010 anticipating \$100,000/year; however, we will not know the actual grant amount until Congress approves its budget in March 2009. Our work plans will need to be flexible to accommodate for cuts in funding.

Tom asked if MRC members could look at the spending for the year. Stef and Jerry responded yes, with multiple yearly updates, and encouraged members to continue to communicate with council. Jerry recommended that all MRC members stay in communication with their respective council representatives.

Dawn asked if someone would be replacing Jen Sevigny on the MRC. Kirby explained that losing Jen and the membership of the Stillaguamish Tribe is a loss for the MRC. He said that Francesca Perez has been the alternate, but is no longer able to attend meetings.

Stef suggested that it might be necessary to think outside the box because the Stillaguamish Tribe's Natural Resource Department is squeezed. He said that Jen is still interested in being involved, and continues to be involved, at the project level.

Kayak Point Presentation:

Stef gave a presentation on the proposed restoration project for Kayak Point County Park. Please see the presentation for further information.

Mary asked how they came up with those distances for the loss/accretion for the beach. Stef will distribute the report to people with more interest. Keeley explained that the math takes in to account sea level rise, current elevation, estimated rise, and a bunch of other numbers.

Lincoln asked if seepage from the septic system in to the lagoon was considered. Stef said that the design would make sure it was in a location not affected by seepage, but it would probably happen anyway. He said that the Parks department is not interested in looking at that design at this time anyhow.

Stef continued that we need to draw a line where we won't support a certain strategy. SWM doesn't want to be involved in a project in which there isn't a surface water benefit (option 4, which Parks is most interested in).

Chrys asked if it would be helpful for the MRC to take a stand and say we will not go with certain options. Jerry explained that if after negotiating with parks we can't come to a consensus and the MRC could potentially justify presenting the project to the Executive and Council to promote the project.

Stef reassured the committee that Parks is still open to ideas. Parks wants to see MRC members at the table. They need to see faces that show up to support moving forward with this. Keeley suggested that we're not going to get money for sound wide habitat improvement to move a road (option 4).

Darryl asked about the possibility of a smaller lagoon with the road intact. Stef explained that there needs to be a big lagoon to sustain itself.

Kirby asked if the sole purpose of the project is habitat restoration. He said that this is a county park, there's the boat ramp, there aren't many piers in that part of the county and these things are really a resource. It might help creating a plan that's going to help people get to the beach. It's possible to make package more saleable if you built that in to the plan and by saying we're doing it for the greater good including recreation.

Stef said that he talked about two things with the parks. The Whole Measures document was the first. He asked how this can benefit the community to create a more thoughtful master plan. We have money to work with UW to create that kind of vision. New picnic shelters etc. are part of the plan and the design. He expressed hope that the smaller group can work toward that. When parks look at it they say what are the amenities that the public likes? If the public doesn't like it then it's really not successful. It's the only facility of its type in this part of the county.

Jerry explained that the project is a lot about saving the park because it's going to go away anyway if nothing is done.

Kirby asked what the impact of the pier might be on the erosion/accretion processes. Stef said that the pilings are far enough apart that sediment transport is not really affected and maintenance is not too much of a problem right now, but parks are willing to do whatever they can to protect the pier. Also he said the boat ramp's impact is minimal. Kirby responded that it's in balance with what's happening now, so what will happen to that if the proposed changes occur? Stef suggested that it's in that middle place that really doesn't see a lot of erosion or accretion. Keeley seconded this saying that it's really ideally built.

Discussion of the Kayak Point project continued with Tom saying that a similar example is Cama Beach State Park on Camano Island. He pointed out that they don't allow any parking down on the beach. Chrys agreed. Why park on the beach when there are so many other attributes that can be enjoyed if the beach isn't lined with cars? Chrys also expressed interest in sitting at the table with Parks. Keeley pointed out that Parks is concerned with the road moving near the playground. Stef said that before taking the Cama Beach example to Parks it is important to talk to people at Cama Beach and see their budget etc.

Jerry asked if in addition to Chrys and Lincoln there are any other's that would be interested in meeting with parks. Darryl said he would also be interested as a regular park visitor

Chrys announced that Beach Watchers is trying to organize teens in the area and asked Stef to let her know if there's time for Beach Watchers to share their vision of what the park might look like with Parks.

Stef suggested a formal letter offering to come to table with her perspective. They're used to getting yelled at for doing things people don't like so it's better to approach them early with what you'd like to see

Keeley reminded that group to remember that it's about traffic flow. Chrys said that what Beach Watchers hear so often is do restoration on public land first and it's up to us as a public organization to take the first bold steps.

Stef encouraged talking to Parks because their Director appears to be open to possibilities. Jerry said that this is about getting together and getting a win for all of us.

Keeley suggested that it would be helpful to organize a van pool with Parks and make a few stops in a day for them to see how people responded to various efforts. Lincoln pointed out other examples including Golden Gardens and West Point. Get Parks people out to meet with park rangers to talk face to face about what they think about these projects.

Jerry reminded the group that there won't be a meeting again until January except for Christmas party.

Final Remarks

Stef said that he is going to send MRC Members an email to get people thinking about proposed projects for the upcoming 2-year work plan. He suggested that if member want to convene a group they should feel free to do so. He would like to see first drafts for projects in early January. He will

send a template to maximize strategic plan goals and strategies within projects. He explained that he's going to take a semi hands off approach until members come to him. After he gets those he'll score proposals, and prioritize. The goal is to get this in to a work plan through February and March. He'd like project leads to develop project proposals that they'd like to see happen and work with staff as necessary. Get as good as an initial draft as possible. Get some good thought in to the first draft.

Stef explained that there are two elements. We have to spend \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year. We need to stagger our projects that will meet that timeline. We want this ready in January so we can be ready to go in March and get our contracts in order etc. for July. Then we have a full year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41pm