

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting (MRC)

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, January 19, 2011 6:30-8:30 PM

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201

Admin East Building, 1st Floor, Public Hearing Room 2

<p>MRC Members Present Mary Cunningham Dawn Lawrence Jerry Masters Jared Bond Lincoln Loehr Brent Hackney Keeley O'Connell Brandon Jensen Simon Geerlofs</p> <p>MRC Members Absent Chrys Bertolotto, excused Thomas Hoban, excused Mike McHugh</p>	<p>Staff, Presenters, and Others Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County SWM Emily Whitney, Snohomish County SWM Tim Walls, Snohomish County SWM Sasha Horst, NWSC Kristin Wilkinson, NOAA Rachel Mayer, Seal Sitters Heather McCartney, City of Mukilteo Steve Hughes, Hart Crowser Trish Mayfield, Seal Sitter and Beach Watcher Elaine Knapp, Seal Sitter and Beach Watcher Lucinda Diann, Seal Sitter and Beach Watcher Susan Morrow, Seal Sitter</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Summary of Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The November 17, 2010 MRC meeting summary was approved.• The Grant Proposal Timeline and Criteria were approved with changes made by the MRC during the meeting.	
<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Northwest Straits Commission Meeting – January 21, 2011 at the Civic Building in Bellingham• People for Puget Sound Jetty Island Planting Party – January 22, 2011, 10 AM – 2 PM on Jetty Island• Snohomish County Mussel Watch – January 18 and 26, 2011• 2011 Environmental Lobby Day – February 15, 2011 Olympia, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM• People For Puget Sound Snohomish County Sound Stewards Training – March 3, 5, 10, 12th• WSU Beach Watcher Training – March 22 – May 6, 2011, Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 AM – 4PM, Marysville	

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Welcome, Introductions, Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries and Announcements

Jerry Masters opened the meeting with a quorum at 6:40 pm.

Introductions

Approval of November 17, 2010 MRC Meeting Summary – Jerry Masters

- Motion: Mary Cunningham, Second: Lincoln Loehr

Announcements:

Events:

- People for Puget Sound Jetty Island Planting Party – January 22, 2011
Jetty Island, Everett, 10 AM – 2 PM
- Snohomish County Mussel Watch – January 18 and 26, 2011
- Port Susan Bay MSA Public Workshop – January 25, 27, 2011
On January 25, 2011, a meeting will be held at Camano Senior and Community Center and on January 27, a meeting will be held at Stanwood Community and Senior Center. Both meetings will be from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.
- Sound Waters – February 5, 2011
One-day Puget Sound University coordinated by Island County Beach Watchers, held at South Whidbey High School in Langley.
- 2011 Environmental Lobby Day – February 15, 2011
Olympia, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM.
- HAZWOPER Training – February 26, 2011
All day event in Everett (exact location to be determined)
- Snohomish County Sound Stewards Training – March 3, 5, 10, 12th
Contact Keeley O'Connell.
- Class of 2011 WSU Beach Watcher Training - March 22 – May 6, 2011
Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 AM – 4 PM, Based out of Marysville (Jennings Park Barn)

Meetings:

- Northwest Straits Commission Meeting – January 21, 2011
10 AM- 3 PM at the Bellingham Civic Building
- Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) - February 8, 2011 7:00- 8:30 PM at
Bayside Marine, 111 Craftsman Way, Everett, WA
- Snohomish MRC Meeting – February 16, 2011 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Announcements:

- Keeley O'Connell reported People For Puget Sound is celebrating its 20th Anniversary in 2011. Visit www.pugetsound.org for more information.
- Brent Hackney spoke with State Representative Kirk Pearson about the CCA and MRC.
- Noah Haglund of the Everett Herald is interested in writing an article on the WDFW Derelict Gear Removal in Port Gardner scheduled to occur in February.

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- An MRC volunteer is needed to attend the Port Susan Bay Marine Stewardship Area Public Workshop.

Public Comment

No public comment

**Northwest Marine Mammal Stranding Network: Opportunities and Information -
Kristin Wilkinson**

Kristin Wilkinson from NOAA Fisheries presented on the Northwest Marine Mammal Stranding Network with particular emphasis on Snohomish County. Kristin began by introducing several members of the local Seal Sitters program to help put a face to the name of this program in Snohomish County.

NOAA and NMFS established the Northwest Marine Mammal Stranding Network in 1972 under the MMPA (Marine Mammals Protection Act). This network responds to marine mammal strandings and collects data for a nationwide database. There are many local groups involved including public volunteers, education groups, and researchers.

The value of this program is it provides the opportunity for public education and increased awareness about marine mammals. In cases of harbor seal pups on the beach, people have known to feed the pups canned tuna or even breast feed them. Educational signage and volunteers on the beach are ways to share with the public about the appropriate and safe way to respond to marine mammals.

Furthermore, this program establishes baseline data on local marine mammal communities and their health as well as increasing biological information available for research. When a stranding occurs, information is collected about the location, date, species, sex, length and weight, and signs of human interaction or tagging. In certain cases, necropsies are conducted. All of this information is entered in a nationwide database. Thus, individuals who report strandings are asked to provide as much detail as possible.

The data collected between 2003 – 2009 shows 95 strandings in Snohomish County. This is a low number compared to the 505 strandings in Island County. More analysis is needed to determine if this is due to a more developed reporting system in Island County, shoreline length, or another such factor. The data also shows that 80% of the Snohomish strandings were harbor seals. The harbor seal population, however, remains stable near the carrying capacity.

Kristin is working to increase awareness about the NOAA NW Stranding Hotline (1-800-853-1964). Part of this is a permanent sign project that seeks to educate the public about harbor seals and how not to disturb them while on the beach. These signs will be placed in areas where harbor seals are known to haul out. The signs are paid for and now need to be installed.

Action: Mary Cunningham will provide Kristin with information on who to contact for Everett signs.

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Cross WRIA Funding Mechanism Working Group

Tim Walls, a Senior Planner with Snohomish County, introduced the MRC to the Cross WRIA Funding Mechanism Working Group. This project would help coordinate efforts in several local watersheds. The group has formally extended an invitation to the MRC to be a part of the planning process.

Action: An MRC representative will learn more about the project and attend the next meeting.

NWSC Grant Planning

The executive subcommittee presented the draft 2011-2013 Grant Proposal Timeline and Ranking Criteria. The draft timeline and criteria were developed using materials from the NWSC and the Whatcom County MRC. The primary goal of the meeting was to review the ranking criteria for grant proposals. These criteria will be used during the February 16 meeting to rank and prioritize the proposals. The final grant application package is due to the NWSC on March 28, 2011.

MRC members developed and unanimously approved six ranking criteria. The criteria provides a new framework to evaluate project proposals submitted to the MRC for funding consideration in the next grant period. Each criterion was assigned a point value and proposals will be awarded points based on how well they meet the criteria.

The criteria were developed and refined during the meeting based on MRC member discussion. One consideration in the discussion was the need to use criteria that would separate the proposals such that they would not all receive the same point value. Also, the bullet points listed under each criterion were changed from goals to questions meant to guide MRC assessment of how the proposed project meets the criteria. Additionally, county staff spoke to the need to include staff time in project evaluation and budgeting. Even with dedicated project champions, staff time is needed for project management.

Once established, the criteria were weighted. MRC members ranked their priorities using a simple majority. The top two criteria were assigned the highest point value. Lower point values were assigned to the other criteria based on priority ranking. Staff capacity and availability to ensure success of project will be used as a tie-breaker.

The criteria are as follows:

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Project Design / Scope of Work | 20 pts |
| 2. Measurable Outcomes | 20 pts |
| 3. Budget and Cost Effectiveness | 15 pts |
| 4. Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives | 15 pts |
| 5. Project Partners | 10 pts |
| 6. Probability of Success / Project Readiness | 10 pts |

Total 90 pts

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Jared Bond moved to approve the Grant Proposal Ranking Criteria and Timeline as presented on the screen and Mary Cunningham seconded. All were in favor and the Timeline and Criteria were approved.

At the time of the meeting, project proposals have been received from:

- Mary Cunningham: Mussel Watch, Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area
- Chrys Bertolotto: Beach Watchers, Shore Stewards, One-Day University
- Jared Bond: Meadowdale Park Improvement Feasibility Study
- Brandon Jensen: Forage Fish Monitoring, REEF Training
- Keeley O'Connell: LID Workshop, Pier Peer, Union Slough, Edmonds March.

These proposals will need to be edited to contain more information as outlined in the ranking criteria.

Action: Kathleen Herrmann will distribute approved Grant Timeline and Ranking Criteria.

Action: Draft grant proposals will be submitted to staff no later than the close of business on January 31, 2011.

Action: Prior to the February 16 meeting, Kathleen Herrmann will send MRC Members instructions for individually ranking projects before the meeting.

MRC Project Updates

This item was held due to time.

Finalize Strategic Plan – Jerry Masters

Jerry Masters is working finalizing the strategic plan.

Action: The strategic plan will be approved by email.

MRC Administration Updates – Kathleen Herrmann

Jerry Masters was appointed to the NWSC by Governor Gregoire. Jerry will provide unique insight to the commission as the only member to have served on an MRC. Jerry will stay with the Snohomish MRC for at least one more year.

Elections for NWSC representatives will be held until the February meeting.

NWSC Update – Lincoln Loehr

This item was held due to time.

Jared Bond motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Lincoln Loehr. All were in favor and Jerry Masters adjourned the meeting at 8:42 pm.

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<p style="text-align: center;">Summary of Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The January 19, 2011 MRC meeting summary was approved with changes.• The FY 2011-2013 Grant proposal project ranking was approved.• A Motion to give MRC staff the ability to put forth a reduced grant proposal to the NWSC at any amount above \$180,000 was approved.• A Motion to request that MRC staff ask the County Executive to have the County lobbyist work on behalf of the NWSC was approved.• A Motion requesting that the Executive and Council direct MRC staff to work with the County lobbyist in Washington D.C. with a goal of expressing Snohomish County's support of the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative and the need to prioritize its work in restoring and protecting our marine resources in Puget Sound was passed.• MRC members elected Jared Bond as Chair, Keeley O’Connell and Brandon Jensen as Co-Vice Chairs, and Tom Hoban as the NWSC representative. Lincoln Loehr and Kathleen Herrmann will serve NWSC alternate positions.	
<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• WSU Snohomish County Beach Watchers Our Puget Sound In-Depth: Rain Gardens 101 – March 2, Mukilteo City Hall at 7 PM• Bluff Residents Workshop – March 5, Meadowdale Community Club, 9 AM – 3 PM• People For Puget Sound Policy Café: “Sound Citizen: Exploring Our Chemical Connections to Puget Sound” – March 8, 2011, Anchor Pub in Everett, 6:30 PM• Snohomish County Sound Stewards Training – March 3, 5, 10, 12th• Class of 2011 WSU Beach Watcher Training - March 22 – May 6, 2011 Tuesdays and Fridays in Marysville, 9 AM – 4 PM	

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Welcome, Introductions, Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries and Announcements

Jerry Masters opened the meeting with a quorum at 6:35 pm.

Introductions

Approval of January 19, 2011 MRC Meeting Summary – Jerry Masters

Brent Hackney made a correction under the announcements that Kirk Pearson is a State Representative and not with the CCA.

Motion to approve the January 19, 2011 Meeting Summary with changes: Keeley O’Connell, Second: Mary Cunningham. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Announcements:

Events:

- Dept. of Ecology’s Puget Sound Initiative, Port Gardner Cleanup Meeting February 16, 2011, Snohomish County PUD in Everett, 6 – 8 PM
- HAZWOPER Training – February 26, 2011 Everett Community College, 8 AM – 4 PM
- WSU Snohomish County Beach Watchers Our Puget Sound In-Depth: Rain Gardens 101 – March 2, Mukilteo City Hall at 7 PM

Action: Chrys Bertolotto will distribute electronic copies of flyers.

- Bluff Residents Workshop – March 5 Meadowdale Community Club, 9 AM – 3 PM
- People For Puget Sound Policy Café: “Sound Citizen: Exploring Our Chemical Connections to Puget Sound” – March 8, 2011, Anchor Pub in Everett, 6:30 PM
- Snohomish County Sound Stewards Training – March 3, 5, 10, 12th Volunteers needed to become local habitat restoration stewards. Training is free. March 3rd and 10th from 6 PM to 9 PM, Port of Everett and March 5th and 12th from 9 AM to 3 PM.
- Class of 2011 WSU Beach Watcher Training - March 22 – May 6, 2011 Tuesdays and Fridays in Marysville, 9 AM – 4 PM
- SnoCo Together: Building our Local Community – June 4, 2011 Day of Learning and Dialogue at Everett Community College, 10 AM – 3 PM

Meetings:

- NWSC Annual Commission and Planning Retreat – February 24-25, 2011
- Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) North Snohomish County Chapter Meeting- March 8, 2011, 7:00- 8:30 PM at Bayside Marine, 111 Craftsman Way, Everett, WA. The MRC would like to give a presentation at a future CCA meeting.

Action: Mary Cunningham will work with Brent Hackney to schedule a time for a MRC presentation.

- Snohomish MRC Meeting – March 16, 2011 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM Snohomish County Campus, Public Hearing Room 2
- Class of 2011 WSU Beach Watcher Training - March 22 – May 6, 2011 Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 AM – 4 PM, based out of Marysville (Jennings Park Barn)

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Announcements:

- People For Puget Sound's Lobby Day in Olympia was a success with over 500 participants. Participants promoted People For Puget Sound's 2011 Environmental Priorities including a coal free future for Washington.
- Bluff Resident Workshop flyers were mailed to residents within 1000 feet of the bluff between Mukilteo and Edmonds.

Action: Thomas Hoban will provide Chrys Bertolotto the Board of Realtors contact information for distribution of workshop flyer.

- Brandon Jensen has posters available to post for the American Fisheries Society Meeting in Seattle on September 4-8, 2011.
- Dawn Lawrence commented that she is proud of the work of the MRC on the NWSC grant proposal. This is the most in-depth and sophisticated approach to the grant proposal that she has seen during her time with the MRC.
- Emily Whitney is updating the MRC Member Contact Information sheet.
- Kathleen Herrmann encouraged MRC members to help distribute flyers for upcoming events. It has a significant impact if everyone posts flyers.
- Brent Hackney reported that it is time to start up the Crabber Education Subcommittee for this year. Brent will be leading the committee and is recruiting additional members. He is looking for someone from WDFW to attend. Thomas Hoban volunteered to participate.

Public Comment- No public comment

MRC Project Updates – Kathleen Herrmann

Mussel Watch

Three of our four sites were successfully sampled on January 18 and 26. Hat Island sampling has been to be rescheduled for February 22 due to an emergency with Sheriff's Department who provides transportation to the sampling site. Once Hat Island sampling is complete, the project focus will then shift from sample collection to data analysis. Lincoln Loehr began the process of updating the report with the available data. At this time, we have received data through March 2009.

The Mussel Watch Subcommittee sent a letter to Jane Lubchenco, Under Secretary of NOAA regarding NOAA Mussel Watch Funding. The funding for NOAA's nationwide program is in jeopardy due to budget constraints. NOAA is in the middle of budget negotiations and final decisions have not yet made. Many other organizations have also sent letters in support of the Mussel Watch program.

Nearshore Sediment Study

The first stakeholder workshop was on January 13, 2011 at the Willis Tucker Park Conference Room in Snohomish. Approximately 18 stakeholders attended this 3-hour workshop. The stakeholders provided additional information on data sources, and generated a list of project ideas to guide the consultant in developing conceptual designs. Many of the project ideas had been previously discussed.

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Jon Houghton of Pentec Environmental gave an excellent site tour to county project partners of the Mt. Baker Terminal restoration site. Jon provided ideas for how dredge material from the Snohomish River could be used to supplement sediment in the nearshore.

Acting project manager Dave Lucas is out on sick leave for an indefinite period of time and will be unable to participate in the February 17, meeting with Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF). Engineers from the County will step up to support the project. The meeting with BNSF is a rare and valuable opportunity to speak with BNSF representatives about restoration of the Snohomish County Nearshore. Kathleen Herrmann, Frank Leonetti, Craig Garric and Chris Nelson from Snohomish County will attend along with Paul Schlenger from Anchor QEA.

Mary Cunningham attended the Stakeholder Workshop and reported she found it particularly interesting to learn from Dan Penttila, a forage fish expert, that dog parks and public use of the beach do not adversely affect forage fish.

Tim Walls reported that this project is in line with the work of the Tulalip Tribes. The Tribes are currently seeking funding sources to support nearshore sediment supply in Port Gardner.

Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area (MSA)

On January 25 and January 27, public workshops were held at Camano Senior and Community Center and Stanwood Community and Senior Center. Approximately 70 people attended and contributed valuable feedback and ideas about Port Susan Bay. Project partners have worked with the scientific community to identify biodiversity targets and stressors to each of these targets. Community input, however, is needed as an important source of information. The Planning team will follow up on information provided at the workshops. Several news articles appeared in the Stanwood Camano News and the Everett Herald about the project. An additional tribal stakeholder meeting will be scheduled on the Tulalip Reservation for tribal members.

The next workshop for the Conservation Action Planning (CAP) process has been set for March 30-31 to develop strategic actions to address threats to Port Susan ecosystem targets. The workshop facilitators will be reviewing the relevant Salmon Recovery and Marine Resources Committee workplans for existing applicable strategies. The workshop will focus on reviewing existing strategies and deciding what additional action needs to take place. Once these strategies are formulated and prioritized for action, they will be presented to the Island and Stillaguamish Watershed Salmon Recovery groups and Island and Snohomish County Marine Resources Committees with the hope that the strategies will be incorporated into their workplans. The strategies will also be circulated to Port Susan resource managers to help guide local actions. This project can be used as a model for the Puget Sound Partnership for how to examine the health of Puget Sound.

Washington Sea Grant and WSU Beach Watchers are working to fill data gaps brought to light by this project. In particular, the goal is to increase understanding

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of the upper tidal area and riparian area, wood, and the level of armoring. Data gaps also indicated that it is unknown what shorebirds eat in Port Susan. WDFW is interested in researching in partnership with Beach Watchers. This is the first outside agency scientific project spurred by our project.

Numerous community partners and jurisdictions have stepped up to provide match funding and staff time. Brandon Jensen commented on the great community support of the project and its incredible opportunity to shed light on ecosystem recovery. Simon Geerlofs, who was involved with the initial stages of this project through the NWSC, was excited to see the progress of this project. The CAP process takes time and he acknowledged the accomplishments of the MRC in working on this project.

Action: Send newspaper clippings to Debbie Terwilleger.

NWSC Grant Planning

MRC members’ project rankings were due to Kathleen Herrmann by Tuesday 2/15. These rankings were compiled and the projects were ranked according to their average score. The Executive subcommittee met prior to the MRC meeting to discuss how to proceed at the MRC meeting.

FY 2011-2013 Snohomish MRC Grant Proposal Ranking Summary

Project	Score	Ranking	Estimated Project Cost
Beach Watcher Training	85	1	\$18,480
Recreational Crabber Education	84	2	\$6,673
Forage Fish Surveys	81	3	\$17,100
Mussel Watch Option One	81	4	\$54,843
Port Susan MSA	78	5	\$20,050
One Day University	76	6	\$4,752
Union Slough Restoration	72	7	\$13,477
Pier Peer Events	70	8	\$3,686
REEF Training	66	9	\$9,800
Crabber Ed Focus Groups	65	10	\$11,150
Meadowdale	60	11	\$60,000
MRC Administration	N/A	N/A	\$102,500
TOTAL			\$322,151

*Existing Projects Highlighted in Orange

Jerry Masters began by reviewing the “FY 2011 – 2013 Snohomish MRC Grant Proposal Ranking Summary” as seen above. All of the submitted project proposals appear with their score out of 90 and associated ranking. For projects with multiple funding phases or tiers, only the highest cost tier is listed as the different tiers scored similarly. The fact that the Meadowdale restoration project was phased with a \$10,000 base and a \$50,000 secondary phase was not indicated clearly prior to the ranking. Jared Bond, who submitted the proposal, clarified that the project could move forward with \$10,000 and support from

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the MRC. The top five ranked projects, highlighted in orange, are projects in the current work plan. The Forage Fish Surveys are an extension of the Nearshore Sediment Study.

In 2011, the County has budgeted approximately \$92,000 for the Marine Resource Program. In 2009, the MRC received a base grant from the NWSC of \$240,000 for State FY 2009-2011. This amount increased to \$305,000 with benchmark funding. The level of NWSC funding available for FY 2011-2013 is unknown at this time. A severe budget crisis would change priorities and require the MRC reconvene to discuss the proposed projects.

The MRC administration cost is independent of the project ranking. Individual project costs include staff time. The MRC administration cost of \$102,500 for two years reflects the staff time needed to keep the MRC functioning and excludes project specific work. Considerable staff time is required for MRC administration within the County.

Action: Kathleen Herrmann will further examine staff time estimates for each project.

Lincoln Loehr motioned to approve the project ranking as listed. Brent Hackney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Funding for the NWSC is currently in neither President Obama's budget nor the House of Representative's budget. Future funding for the NWSC is uncertain at this time. A Notice of Intent meeting was held with MRC Staff, MRC Executive Subcommittee, and NWSC staff on February 4, 2011. NWSC staff encouraged the MRC to consider what their core function was and work to continue funding these projects.

In light of these budget concerns, Jerry Masters asked the MRC to give staff direction on how to proceed with the grant proposal in the next 30 to 60 days. MRC members challenged each other to think creatively about what the program means to the community and the application and impact for the whole county. Conversations with individual project managers would be needed to determine what level of funding could potentially be removed from projects.

Another important question arose about staff capacity and the ability of staff to manage all of the proposed projects. Kathleen Herrmann noted it might be necessary to take away projects so that there is time to do them each well. It was acknowledged that managing numerous projects could be more time consuming than several large projects. Simon Geerlofs spoke from his experience with the NWSC saying that some MRCs have done as many as 17 projects at once and found it challenging. Jerry Masters suggested the staff capacity conversation be a part of the work plan discussion once the level of funding is known.

The next point of discussion was what level of leeway to staff to rearrange budget numbers if the NWSC has to cut the base grant amount. If the NWSC cuts less than \$60,000 from the base grant of \$240,000, it was proposed staff would have the ability to work individually with project managers to rework the budget. If more than \$60,000 is cut from

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the NWSC grant, then the MRC will reconvene and open discussions on budget constraints and project priorities.

Lincoln Loehr motioned to give Kathleen the ability to make a grant proposal to the NWSC in the range of \$180,000 to \$240,000. Dawn Lawrence seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

As funding decisions are still being made regarding the NWSC, the MRC has the time and opportunity to support the NWSC. Elected officials need to be reminded of the value of the work on Puget Sound that is being done by the NWSC and MRCs.

Mary Cunningham motioned that the MRC request the Surface Water Management Director direct staff to write an Issue paper regarding NWSC funding. Jared Bond seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Keeley O’Connell motioned to request MRC staff inform the county Executive of the MRC request for assistance from the county lobbyist work on behalf of the NWSC. Jared Bond seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

MRC Administration Updates – Kathleen Herrmann

Executive Committee members and NWSC representative and alternate were elected for 2011. The following candidates volunteered to be on the executive committee:

- Jared Bond, chair
- Keeley O’Connell, continuing as co-vice chair
- Brandon Jensen, co-vice chair

The following candidates volunteered to continue as NWSC representatives:

- Thomas Hoban, NWSC representative
- Lincoln Loehr, NWSC alternate
- Kathleen Herrmann, NWSC alternate

Mary Cunningham motioned to approve the nominations as listed. Dawn Lawrence seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

NWSC Update - Jerry Masters

Jerry Masters has stepped aside as chair to the Snohomish MRC to serve as a gubernatorial appointee on the NWSC board. He will remain a MRC member for his current appointed term.

Jared Bond motioned to adjourn the meeting. Lincoln Loehr seconded the motion. All were in favor and Jerry Masters adjourned the meeting at 8:34 PM.

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<p style="text-align: center;">Summary of Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The February 16, 2011 MRC meeting summary was approved with changes.	
<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class of 2011 WSU Beach Naturalist Training – April 22 (9 AM – 4 PM) and April 30 (10 AM – 12 PM)• Coastal Conservation Association North Snohomish County Chapter Meeting- April 12, 2011, 7:00- 8:30 PM at Bayside Marine, 111 Craftsman Way, Everett, WA• WSU Snohomish County Beach Watchers Our Puget Sound In-Depth: May 4, 2011 7:00 PM at Mukilteo City Hall, 11930 Cyrus Way, Mukilteo	

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Welcome and Introductions

Jared Bond opened the meeting with a quorum at 6:33 pm.

Snohomish MRC 2010 Annual Report- Jared Bond

Jared Bond presented highlights from the 2010 Annual Report. He introduced MRC members and thanked the MRC's many project partners and sponsors. A special thank you was extended to the volunteers who worked with the MRC, WSU Snohomish County Beach Watchers, and the Port Susan Project Team for 8,028 volunteer hours served in 2010! Key accomplishments include, reaching over 1,700 recreational crabbers with the outreach message "Keep Your Crab Pot, Eat More Crabs" and hosting over 250 community members at a viewing of Florian Graner's film *Beneath the Salish Sea*. Another key accomplishment was the partnership with the UW Environmental Management Program to examine Snohomish County oil spill preparedness and response.

Bond also highlighted the work completed on several MRC projects. For the Kayak Point Park Restoration Design project, a 100% restoration design was completed in early 2010. The MRC held a visioning workshop to receive input on the conceptual design options. The feedback initiated a partnership between the MRC and People For Puget Sound, to assess the feasibility of including a barrier lagoon in the restoration.

The Nature Conservancy's CAP (Conservation Action Planning) model is guiding work to develop a community-based marine stewardship plan for Port Susan. In January 2010, scientists and local experts met to identify seven targets encompassing the range of biodiversity in Port Susan, along with key indicators for each target. In the fall of 2010, a second workshop was held to identify threats to the Port Susan ecosystem. The targets and associated threats will be used in the development of the marine stewardship plan. Two public workshops, which were well-attended and received good press, were held in early 2011 to gain feedback on the Marine Stewardship Area.

The Mussel Watch program continues to monitor marine water quality. The program collects and analyzes mussel samples for chemical contaminants. The success of the Snohomish County program led to the development of the 2010 Washington State Mussel Watch program. Findings were presented at the annual SETAC meeting, an environmental toxicology and chemistry conference.

As part of the MRC's restoration work, a nearshore sediment study is underway examining the shoreline between Mukilteo and Everett. The collaborative stakeholder process will identify and address concerns, ideas, and priorities for restoration of the nearshore area. A technical assessment and baseline data collection will also be used to guide the process.

Looking to the future, the MRC hopes to continue work on these highlighted projects and others. Federal funding of the MRC is uncertain at this time, which could affect what projects can be done, but the MRC is grateful for baseline funding provided by the County. Bond closed by thanking everyone, including the dedicated volunteers and Snohomish County staff for their

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, March 16, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

support of the MRC's efforts to improve marine waters and benefit the citizens of Snohomish County.

MRC Members suggested that this presentation be shared with other community groups.

Oil Spill Preparedness and Response – UW Environmental Management Team

In response to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and a request from the County Council, the MRC sponsored a keystone project through the UW Environmental Management Program. Over the past 20 weeks, the Oil Spill Project team examined oil spill preparedness and response in Snohomish County. The team includes graduate students; Sara Booth, Tom Carter, Andrea Kunz, and Vivien Savath and their faculty advisor, Dr. Robert Pavia. The project goal was to inform Snohomish County of “the threats and potential impacts of marine oil spills on social, environmental, and economic interests in the County, and to identify and develop prevention and preparedness options for reducing the risks and consequences of marine oil spills.”

Snohomish County's role in the case of an oil spill is to act as a bridge between Federal and State responders and local residents. The county will need to facilitate and assist in communication both as a collector of local information and as a provider of information to concerned citizens. Effective communication can facilitate a successful response and efficient use of resources.

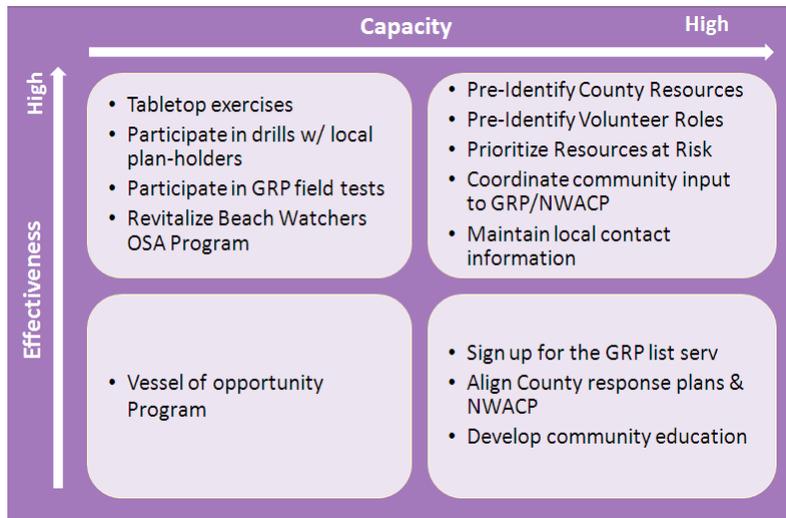
To help the county prepare for this role, the team conducted foundational research into the resources at risk, the potential threat sources, and the legislative and organizational environment of an oil spill. The team considered both ecological and economic resources at risk from a spill. Some of the resources included in the research were commercial fishing, tourism, marine life, and shoreline habitats, such as sensitive wetland areas. Potential oil spill threats identified were the Olympic Pipeline, Naval, cargo and fishing vessels, tugs and barges, marinas and ports, and the BNSF railroad. In the case of a spill, there are several planning documents in place. The regional planning document pertaining to Snohomish County is the Northwest Action Contingency Plan (NWACP). This document outlines response procedures and priorities for protecting specific resources. The NWACP also includes Geographical Response Plans (GRP) with site-specific information and maps. When a spill occurs and multiple agencies are involved in the response, the Incident Command System (ICS) establishes a Unified Command (UC) that has overall responsibility. The ICS system structure is designed to support communication and evaluation so that response efforts evolve as the spill evolves.

Next, the team identified four possible spill scenarios. The scenarios are a pipeline spill and spills from a fishing vessel, a barge, and a cargo vessel. The scenarios do not represent the most likely spills but cover a broad range of spill possibilities. Modeling software illustrated the timeline and extent of possible spills. The modeling results were then overlaid with Environmental Species Index (ESI) maps to show vulnerable species. These scenarios are designed to spark dialogue about potential oil spills in Snohomish County.

The team identified four gaps in Snohomish County oil spill preparedness and response. These gaps are participation in the planning process, communication, local knowledge, and volunteer utilization. Out of 14 recommendations to address these gaps, five were highlighted. The options were pre-identify volunteer roles, maintain lists of contacts, complete tabletop exercises,

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, March 16, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

signup for the GRP listserv, and coordinate community input to GRP/NWACP. Each of these options was evaluated for how it addressed the gaps, and the county’s capacity to implement the option and the effectiveness of the option. The markers of capacity were authority, resources required, frameworks, independence, and avoids duplication of effort. The markers of effectiveness were community engagement, communication flows, increases trust (with agencies), increases influence, community knowledge. The following matrix shows this evaluation.



This research is the beginning of the process. The next steps for Snohomish County are to consider these options, conduct further research, and develop strategies.

Conversation following the presentation focused on the need to continue developing this work. Debbie Terwilleger and Steve Thomsen would like to see the MRC foster communication in this area that is ripe for development. Caroline Gibson suggested sharing this work with other counties because it is so relevant. The value of clear communication and plans to utilize volunteers was also highlighted. Dr. Pavia spoke to the need for county representatives to be partners with co-responders as this supports better communication. Also discussed was the idea of integrating actions with existing activities so that it is sustainable in spite of the infrequency of spill. From his experience working with oil spills at NOAA, Alan Mearns spoke of communication gaps between local agencies and politicians and the need for volunteer training. The project team was thanked for their great work on this project.

Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries and Announcements

Brandon Jensen noted a misspelling of his name.

Motion to approve the February 16, 2011 Meeting Summary with the change: Jerry Masters. Second: Lincoln Loehr. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, March 16, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Announcements

Announcements:

- Brent Hackney reported that he and Chrys Bertolotto met with WDFW and community members about recreational crabber education. WDFW would like to start a program similar to the MRC's. Chrys Bertolotto presented the work of the MRC and Beach Watchers.
- Simon Geerlofs shared that PNNL is starting a new project with EPA grant funding called Snowcaps to Whitecaps, which will link hydrology models from the mountains to the sound.
- Keeley O'Connell reported the People For Puget Sound Sound Stewardship Training went well and new interest was generated for Jetty Island.
- The People For Puget Sound's "New Day for Puget Sound" Luncheon is on April 6th with Dr. Dee Boersma as the keynote speaker.
- People For Puget Sound is celebrating its 20th Anniversary with a voyage around Puget Sound onboard the *Adventuress*. Celebrations will be held in ports-of-call. The *Adventuress* will arrive at the Port of Everett at 4 pm on May 13th. Visit www.onepugetsound.org to find out more.
- WSU Snohomish County Beach Watchers training began March 22. Volunteers who are unable to attend the whole Beach Watcher training are invited to attend Beach Naturalist training on April 22 and April 30. Contact Chrys Bertolotto to request an application at Chrys@wsu.edu or (425) 357-6020.
- Jared Bond raised the idea of ordering gear with the MRC logo for MRC members. Also suggested was purchasing items with the MRC logo, such as mugs, to give to guest presenters as a thank you from the MRC.

Action: Mary Cunningham volunteered to look into MRC gear and logo items.

Events:

- Storming the Sound Education Workshop – March 25, 2011, 9 AM – 4 PM at the Seattle Art Museum
- WSU Snohomish County Beach Watchers Our Puget Sound In-Depth: Seaweeds: Not Just for Sushi, April 6 at 7:00 PM. Contact Chrys Bertolotto for more information (425) 357-6020 or Chrys@wsu.edu.
- Return of the Kings: Effects of Dam Removal on Biodiversity in the Elwha River Floodplain – April 6 at 6 PM at REI, Seattle. Hosted by Western Alumni Association.

Meetings:

- Coastal Conservation Association North Snohomish County Chapter Meeting- April 12, 2011
7:00- 8:30 PM at Bayside Marine, 111 Craftsman Way, Everett, WA
- SnoCo Together: Building our Local Community – June 4, 2011
10 AM – 3 PM, Day of Learning and Dialogue at Everett Community College

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, March 16, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

MRC Kudos

Jerry Masters was recognized for his leadership of the MRC as chair for the past three years. In appreciation of all of his work, MRC members presented Jerry with a thank you gift.

Kudos was also given to Chrys Bertolotto, Kathleen Herrmann, and Emily Whitney for their work with the Bluff Resident Workshop held on March 5th, which over 65 people attended.

NWSC Retreat Update- Jerry Masters

The annual NWSC retreat was held on February 24-25, 2011. Discussions surrounded the NWSC grant funding status. At the time of the meeting, all MRC counties, except Snohomish and Skagit, had written letters supporting the NWSC. The Snohomish MRC is currently working with the Snohomish County leaders to do the same. Kathy Fletcher and Terry Williams continue to work with senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell to support the NWSC. Funding for the NWSI was not included in the first or the second continuing resolution of the federal budget. The NWSC is hopeful that there will be some level of support from NOAA or EPA. At the retreat, the MRCs were advised to continue their work but to be aware that as funding changes MRCs may need to start thinking creatively about how to leverage other grants.

NWSC Grant Planning

Given the state of NWSC funding, the MRC needs to remain flexible for the NWSC grant proposal. The Executive Committee requested project managers reexamine projects and consider what is needed to keep the project alive and what could be added in depending on funding. Both project phasing and timing should be considered. Also requested was a list of other funding sources for the project, considering current and future partnerships. It is important to know if project matching depends on MRC funding.

Action: Project managers will submit further project details by April 8, 2011.

Public Comment

No comment

Jared Bond adjourned the meeting at 8:34pm.

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting (MRC)

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 6:30-8:30 PM

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201

Admin East Building, 1st Floor, Public Hearing Room 2

<p>MRC Members Present Chrys Bertolotto Jared Bond Mary Cunningham Simon Geerlofs Brent Hackney Thomas Hoban Lincoln Loehr Jerry Masters Keeley O'Connell</p> <p>MRC Members Absent Brandon Jensen, excused Dawn Lawrence, excused Mike McHugh (Cathy Stanley, representing Tulalip Tribes attended)</p>	<p>Staff, Presenters, and Others Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County SWM Emily Whitney, Snohomish County SWM Cathy Stanley, Tulalip Tribes Ben Lubbers, Beach Watcher</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Summary of Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The March 16, 2011 MRC meeting summary was approved.• Sponsorship of the Seattle Town Hall Ocean Acidification Presentation was approved.• The new MRC website (www.snocomrc.org) was approved.	
<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• WSU Snohomish County Beach Watchers Our Puget Sound In-Depth: Dungeness Crabs – The State of Harvest and Lost Gear: May 4, 2011, 7:00 PM at Mukilteo City Hall, 11930 Cyrus Way, Mukilteo.• Sound Voyage 2011: People For Puget Sound Everett 20th Anniversary Celebration – May 13, 2011, 5:30 PM at the Port of Everett. Visit www.onepugetsound.org for more information. Pier Peer to follow the celebration.• People For Puget Sound Spring Work Parties: May 22, 2011, 1 – 4 pm at Edmonds Marsh and June 4, 2011, 1 – 4 pm at Union Slough.• People For Puget Sound Policy Café: Dead Birds Do Tell Tales: May 24, 2011, 6:30 pm, Anchor Pub, Everett.• WSU Snohomish County Beach Watchers Our Puget Sound In-Depth: Around the Americas – Ocean Tales from a Boat Voyage: June 1, 2011, 7:00 PM at Rosehill Community Center, 302 Lincoln Ave, Mukilteo.	

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, April 20, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Welcome and Introductions

Jared Bond opened the meeting with a quorum at 6:34 pm.

Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries and Announcements

Motion to approve the March 16, 2011 Meeting Summary: Keeley O’Connell.
Second: Mary Cunningham. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Announcements

Announcements:

- Francisca Perez announced her intention to request appointment to serve on the MRC in the vacant position representing the Stillaguamish Tribe.
- Cathy Stanley attended the meeting in place of Mike McHugh from Tulalip Tribes. Cathy will apply to fill Mike’s position as the Tulalip Tribes representative on the MRC once Mike McHugh resigns.
- Both Tribal appointments are pending a resignation letter from Mike McHugh.
- Beach Watchers will host 1,500 students on fieldtrips at Kayak Point in April and May.
- Mary Cunningham researched MRC monogrammed clothing options. Clothing can be monogrammed for the cost of the item plus \$8. The clothing cost is quantity dependent. Clothing item suggestions included hats, fleece vests, and t-shirts.

Action: Mary Cunningham will work with MRC members to narrow the choices and will then present options to the MRC via email.

- Mary Cunningham reported pricing for MRC logo mugs to use as Thank you gifts for presenters. The price is quantity dependent but is approximately \$200-250 for 40 mugs.

Action: The Executive Committee will look at it further and report to MRC.

- Mary Cunningham reported NOAA’s Northwest Fisheries Science Center hosted a “Meet Your NOAA Neighbor” event also on April 20, 2011.
- Kathleen Herrmann is looking for an MRC member to present “MRC101” to the BeachWatchers Class of 2011 on April 29, 2011.

Action: Mary Cunningham and Emily Whitney will jointly present.

- MRC Members are requested to sign Training Authorization Forms to facilitate MRC payment of future marine-related training events.

Events:

- People For Puget Sound Everett Pier Peer – April 22, 2011, 7:30pm, 10th St Boat Launch.

Action: Jerry Masters and possibly Simon Geerlofs will attend for the MRC.

- The Class of 2011 Beach Watchers Graduation – May 6, 2011.
- People For Puget Sound’s Everett Anniversary Celebration – May 13, 2011, 5:30 pm, Port of Everett. Visit www.onepugetsound.org for information. The MRC is one of two featured groups. A Pier Peer at the 10th Street Boat Launch will follow the celebration.
- People For Puget Sound Spring Work Parties: May 22, 2011, 1 – 4 pm at Edmonds Marsh and June 4’ 2011, 1 – 4 pm at Union Slough.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, April 20, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

- People For Puget Sound Policy Café: Dead Birds Do Tell Tales: May 24, 2011, 6:30 pm, Anchor Pub, Everett.
- SnoCo Together: Building Our Local Community: June 4, 2011, 10 am – 3 pm, Everett Community College.

Meetings:

- Northwest Straits Commission Meeting- April 29, 2011 9 AM- 3 PM at the Padilla Bay Reserve, Mount Vernon. Each MRC was asked to present their most fundable project; Kathleen Herrmann will present on the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area. MRC members are encouraged to attend.
- Coastal Conservation Association North Snohomish County Chapter Meeting- May 10, 2011, 7:00- 8:30 PM at Bayside Marine, 111 Craftsman Way, Everett.

Public comment

No comment

MRC Project Updates

Crabber Education – Brent Hackney

The next Crabber Education Subcommittee is scheduled for April 26, 2011. MRC members are welcome to attend. Don Velasquez and Don Rothaus from WDFW will attend to coordinate outreach efforts. WDFW is compiling packets to give to crabbers including calipers, educational materials, and rot cord. Brent Hackney will contact representatives of NW Coastal Conservation Association and Puget Sound Anglers about the meeting.

Nearshore Sediment Study – Kathleen Herrmann

The second stakeholder workshop was held on April 8, 2011. Detailed site characterizations between Mt. Baker Terminal and the Port of Everett along with five possible restoration approaches were presented. The restoration approaches range from highly engineered full beach profiles to less engineered augmentation of the sediment supply. The workshop goal was to narrow restoration options to four sites, each with a preferred restoration approach. The four options will be developed to the 10% design level for the third stakeholder workshop with the final 30% design completed after the workshop. BNSF Railroad staff are participating in the stakeholder process. The project team is also talking with project partners and landowners about who will be able to implement the project.

Mussel Watch – Lincoln Loehr

The Mussel Watch Subcommittee is compiling data for the NWSC report due June 17, 2011. Lincoln Loehr presented graphs comparing Snohomish County contaminant levels to Washington State levels. Alan Mearns contributed the Washington State graphs. The graphs represented data through 2009, the most current data available. Higher contaminant levels, such as PCBs and PAHs levels were found in winter months, when there was greater rainfall, compared to summer sampling levels. Kathleen Herrmann presented on Mussel Watch to the Stillaguamish Clean Water District Advisory Board at their March meeting, which opened further discussion of the project and its applications.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, April 20, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Shore Stewards Workshops – Chrys Bertolotto

The Shore Stewards program provides resources for healthy shoreline living to waterfront and streamside property owners. The program exceeded its goal of recruiting 200 new Shore Stewards after July 2009 (230 recruited). There are now 467 Shore Stewards in Snohomish County. Booths at local events, community presentations, and bulk mailings were effective recruiting tools. The 2011 program evaluation asked stewards to evaluate which of the 10 Guidelines for Shoreline Living they currently follow compared to before they joined. There was an increase in the number of guidelines followed after individuals became Shore Stewards.

Evaluation of the March 5th Bluff Resident Workshop was also positive; all evaluators would recommend the workshop to others. Bulk mailing was effective for informing residents about the workshop (2/3 of evaluators heard about the workshop through the mailing) although this was the most expensive option.

Beach Watchers – Chrys Bertolotto

Chrys Bertolotto focused on the Beach Watcher training, as it is MRC funded. The training is most difficult Beach Watcher component to fund because it is not project specific. In the past two years, 37 new Beach Watchers were recruited, slightly below the goal of 50. These volunteers are hard at work, with the Class of 2010 contributing over 1500 hours. To increase recruitment, the message “Craft your own volunteer experience” was used. Next year the training will be split with one month in the spring and one month in the fall. Beach Watchers are currently involved in many projects including coordinating beach fieldtrips with local schools.

Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area – Kathleen Herrmann

The third Conservation Action Planning (CAP) workshop was held on March 30-31, 2011. The workshop focused on developing strategies to address threats to biodiversity targets in Port Susan. Workshop participants worked develop SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-limited) objectives and associated strategic actions. In total, 10 objectives and 27 strategic actions were developed. The Core team is reviewing the objectives and strategic actions.

The work is spurring discussion of other projects in Port Susan including a possible DNR designation of a State Aquatic Reserve and a Snohomish Camano ECO Net grant Targeted Awareness Grant application for education and outreach work in Port Susan.

Oil Spill Report – Kathleen Herrmann

Kathleen Herrmann and Andrea Kunz presented on Snohomish County Oil Spill Preparedness and Response at the March 25, 2011 NWSC Meeting. The same presentation was given at the March MRC meeting. The NWSC and other MRCs were very interested in sharing this presentation at other MRC meetings. The NWSC may be interested in hiring one of the students as an intern this summer to spread the project to other MRCs. Additionally, Governor Gregoire signed legislation to improve Washington protection from major oil spills on April 20, 2011.

Several ideas were shared for continued MRC involvement in this work. Jerry Masters suggested this item be placed on the agenda for a future MRC meeting.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, April 20, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Kayak Point Project Update and Discussion – Keeley O’Connell

Keeley O’Connell updated the MRC on the Kayak Point County Park Restoration Design. The project will restore habitat and habitat-forming processes at Kayak Point County Park by restoring backshore habitat and potentially a barrier lagoon feature and addressing impairments to long-shore drift. At this time, two Visioning Workshops to gather public input have been held, WSU Beach Watchers have completed 3 years of pre-restoration monitoring, two conceptual park designs were produced, and a lagoon feasibility study will soon be finalized. Throughout the process community partnerships and, facilitated public engagement workshops, have proven very valuable to moving the project forward.

Concerns surrounding a barrier lagoon at the park prompted a feasibility study sponsored by the MRC and People For Puget Sound. The project team is currently reviewing the draft study. The preliminary report recommends increasing lagoon size for stability and provides guidelines for lagoon stability and expectations for maintenance and the extent of the wetland fringe habitat provided. The report recommends against placing a bridge over the lagoon inlet due to the amount of armoring required. The final feasibility study report will be completed in June.

The next steps will be to finalize the recommendations, complete the 100% day-use area design, conduct hydrodynamic (MORPHO) modeling and secure funding for implementation. Discussion among the MRC members led to agreement that the MRC should amend the 2011-2013 NWSC Grant Proposal to include Kayak Point. The proposal will provide MRC Staff time for planning public meetings and hiring a consultant to conduct MORPHO modeling. Submission of a project proposal would add Kayak Point work to the list of project proposals to be evaluated when funding for the next grant cycle is known.

Action: Keeley O’Connell and Kathleen Herrmann will put together a project proposal by April 25, 2011 for Kayak Point Park restoration work.

Seattle Town Hall Ocean Acidification Presentation – Kathleen Herrmann

The nonprofit Sustainable Path and the NWSC have provided funding for Meg Chadsey to coordinate a Seattle Town Hall presentation on Ocean Acidification. The event would include a presentation by Dr. Dick Feely on “Ocean Acidification 101” and presentation by Brian Baird on “Why Ocean Acidification Matters, and What We Can Do About It.” The event is scheduled for November 8th. The organizing committee has requested that the MRC sponsor the event. There would be no cost to the MRC but the MRC logo would be included on materials.

Motion to approve sponsorship of the Seattle Town Hall Ocean Acidification Presentation: Lincoln Loehr. Amended to request the event not occur on November 5, 2011, the day of the One-Day University. Second: Mary Cunningham. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MRC Website – Emily Whitney

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, April 20, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Following MRC direction to create a new website in partnership with Mindfly Design Studio and the NWSC in November 2010, the MRC has been working with to design a new, user-friendly MRC website. The new website contains content from the existing county website and includes individual project pages. Project pages can be expanded to include additional details. The new website is ready to go live pending MRC approval. Once live, MRC members will have the opportunity to review the site. Changes and updates to the site can be made at any time. MRC members are encouraged to review their bio paragraphs and contribute pictures. Project managers are asked to review project pages. Visit the new site at www.snocomrc.org.

Action: Email website comments to Emily Whitney.

Motion to approve to the launch the new MRC website: Jerry Masters. Second: Brent Hackney. All were in favor and the motion passed.

NWSC Update – Jerry Masters

Government agencies have received 2011 budgets and now have 60 days (until May 31st) to submit the breakdown of their budget. NOAA received a 3% cut but Senator Murray encouraged the agency to find a place for the Northwest Straits Initiative (NWSI). The NWSI does not expect an immediate answer but is looking at reduced budget scenarios. Thanks to the MRCs, public citizens, and other organizations for their efforts to keep the NWSI highly visible. While the 2011 budget is still uncertain; 2012 budget negotiations have begun. The NWSC may see different funding situations for 2011 and 2012.

The Snohomish County Executive signed a letter on behalf of the MRC in support of the NWSC.

The NWSC annual report is now available for distribution. The Commission requests records be kept of where, when, and to whom the reports are distributed.

Jared Bond adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting (MRC)

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, May 18, 2011 6:30-8:30 PM

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201

Admin East Building, 1st Floor, Public Hearing Room 2

<p>MRC Members Present Chrys Bertolotto Jared Bond Mary Cunningham Simon Geerlofs Brent Hackney Thomas Hoban Brandon Jensen Lincoln Loehr Keeley O'Connell</p> <p>MRC Members Absent Dawn Lawrence, excused Jerry Masters, excused Mike McHugh</p>	<p>Staff, Presenters, and Others Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County SWM Timothy Walls, Snohomish County SWM Emily Whitney, Snohomish County SWM</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Summary of Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The April 20, 2011 MRC meeting summary was approved.• Motion to send Kathleen Herrmann to the Salish Sea Conference as the MRC Representative was approved.• The MRC proposed project listing was approved as a workplan.	
<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coastal Conservation Association North Snohomish County Chapter Meeting- June 14, 2011, 7:00- 8:30 PM at Bayside Marine, 111 Craftsman Way, Everett• Next MRC Meeting: June 15, 2011 at 6:30 pm Snohomish County Campus• NWSC Meeting – June 24, 2011 in Snohomish County• Rockfish in the Salish Sea Conference: June 28-29, 2011 in Seattle• Beach Expos at local beaches 11 am – 3 pm: July 16th on Hat Island, July 30 at Mukilteo Lighthouse Park and August 13th at Kayak Point Park	

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Welcome and Introductions

Jared Bond opened the meeting with a quorum at 6:38 pm.

Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries and Announcements

Motion to approve the April 20, 2011 Meeting Summary: Mary Cunningham.
Second: Brandon Jensen. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Announcements

Announcements:

- The May 13, 2011 Everett Herald featured a front-page article on derelict gear removal in Port Gardner. The article “Removing Death Traps” by Noah Haglund can be read at <http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20110513/NEWS01/705139908/-1/NEWS>.
- Mary Cunningham compiled MRC monogrammed clothing orders. The clothing will be embroidered with the previous design of the MRC logo for \$9 per item.

Action: Mary Cunningham will confirm MRC member clothing choices prior to ordering.

- Simon Geerlofs shared Pacific Northwest National Laboratory’s (PNNL) new EPA funded project called Snowcaps to Whitecaps, which will create hydrology models from the mountains to the sound. PNNL will work to set up meetings with city and county officials along with the MRC.
- Snohomish County Mussel Watch data may be used for consideration in designating the Port Gardner for a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) by Tulalip Tribes and also by the Washington Department of Ecology’s draft municipal stormwater NPDES permit for nearshore monitoring.
- The Puget Sound Partnership requested full proposals from both projects put forward by the Snohomish-Camano ECONet; Stewardship in Port Susan and the Island County SMP.
- The Education and Outreach Subcommittee is being resurrected to look at outreach planning and priorities across the MRC. This will be an opportunity for MRC members to take a more active role in assisting with planning of the One-Day University.

Action: Interested MRC members should contact Simon Geerlofs or Chrys Bertolotto.

- A volunteer is needed to take meeting minutes at the June 15th MRC meeting when Emily Whitney will be absent.

Action: Lincoln Loehr will take minutes on June 15, 2011.

- All grant deliverables are due to the NWSC on June 17, 2011.

Action: Project leads should submit deliverables to MRC staff by June 3rd.

- The MRC grant application is due to the NWSC on June 17, 2011.

Action: Project leads should submit proposals to MRC staff by June 3rd.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Action: Kathleen Herrmann will email the grant proposal template to MRC Members.

Events:

- Watershed Fun Fair: May 21, 2011, 11 am – 4 pm Yost Park, Edmonds.
- People For Puget Sound Spring Work Parties: May 22, 2011, 1 – 4 pm at Edmonds Marsh and June 4' 2011, 1 – 4 pm at Union Slough.
- WSU Snohomish County Beach Watchers Our Puget Sound In-Depth: Around the Americas – Ocean Tales from a Boat Voyage: June 1, 2011, 7:00 pm at Rosehill Community Center, 302 Lincoln Ave, Mukilteo.
- SnoCo Together: Building Our Local Community: June 4, 2011, 10 am – 3 pm, Everett Community College. The MRC is invited to have a display.
- Celebrate Kathy Fletcher's retirement from People For Puget Sound: June 22, 2011, 6:30 pm, Seattle Aquarium. Purchase tickets in advance.
- Rockfish in the Salish Sea Workshop, June 28-29, 2011 in Seattle. Register by June 13th at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/Other-Marine-Species/Puget-Sound-Marine-Fishes/upload/rockfish-wrkshp.pdf>.
- Beach Expos at local beaches 11 am – 3 pm: July 16 on Hat Island, July 30 at Mukilteo Lighthouse Park and August 13 at Kayak Point Park.

Meetings:

- Northwest Straits Commission Meeting- May 20, 2011 9 AM- 3 PM at the Jamestown S' Klallam Tribal Center, Clallam County
- Coastal Conservation Association North Snohomish County Chapter Meeting- June 14, 2011, 7:00- 8:30 PM at Bayside Marine, 111 Craftsman Way, Everett.

Public comment- No comment

Kudos

The following individuals were recognized for their recent contributions to the MRC:

- Lincoln Loehr for his contributions to the WA Department of Ecology Phase 3 Study: "Toxics in Surface Runoff to Puget Sound," released on May 18, 2011.
- Emily Whitney for taking notes at the Crabber Education Subcommittee Meeting.
- MRC Project Leads for their collaboration and efforts to trim project proposal budgets.

Salish Sea Conference

The NWSC will fund one registration per MRC for registration to attend the Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference. The conference is October 25-27, 2011 in Vancouver, B.C. Other MRC members can use the NWSI's nonprofit status to receive a registration discount. Kathleen Herrmann is preparing a Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area abstract in partnership with Abby Hook from the Tulalip Tribes. Chrys Bertolotto and Lincoln Loehr are also considering abstracts. Abstracts are due May 27, 2011. Kathleen Herrmann requested consideration as the MRC representative at the conference.

Motion to send Kathleen Herrmann to the Salish Sea Conference: Mary Cunningham. Second: Simon Geerlofs. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

MRC Member Conflict of Interest

The NWSC has expressed concerns regarding conflict of interest (COI) with respect to certain MRC grant proposals. These concerns extend to all MRCs. The COI arises when a committee member (regular or *ex-officio*) may receive a salary from MRC funds. In response to these concerns, the MRC will at a minimum, clearly document in the Meeting Minutes when MRC members with COI recuse themselves from voting. Additionally, MRC members discussed having project leads with COI be present to answer questions and followed by a time with the individual out of the room. Questions were raised about the voting method.

Action: The Executive Subcommittee will draft an amendment to the bylaws on conflict of interest. Kathleen Herrmann will email the current bylaws to all MRC members for review prior to the June MRC meeting.

MRC Budget

The NWSC has kept the MRC up to date with funding information as they receive it; however dollar amounts have not yet been committed. The MRC voted on a draft workplan with a \$220,000 budget based on an estimated \$200,000 in County funds divided over the next two years and a \$20,000 donation from the Marjorie Mosher Schmidt Foundation. MRC staff will address spending restrictions on these funds. The two year funding cycle would go from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2013.

The proposed MRC project list includes seven projects. In the spirit of collaboration, several project leads withdrew proposals to meet the projected budget cuts. Jared Bond removed the Meadowdale Beach Park Improvement Feasibility Study because the project lead, Snohomish County Parks, does not currently have project funding. Jared would like to continue attending meetings on the subject should future project opportunities become available. Keeley O’Connell withdrew the Union Slough Restoration and Pier Peer Event proposals as People For Puget Sound is seeking other funding sources for these projects. Brandon Jensen removed the REEF Training proposal with plans to resubmit the proposal when there is greater interest and funding. The remaining seven projects along with MRC Administration and Travel costs total \$199,095. The MRC considers this list as equal at this time without ranking and became the basis for the draft workplan following MRC approval. As additional funding becomes available, the MRC will revisit the workplan.

Potential MRC Project List

Project	Cost
MRC Admin	\$102,500
MRC Travel	\$6,000
Beach Watcher Training	\$16,940
Recreational Crabber Education	\$6,881
Mussel Watch Option Four	\$11,000
Forage Fish Surveys	\$17,100
Port Susan MSA	\$20,050
One Day University	\$4,664
Kayak Point	\$13,960
Total	\$199,095

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
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Mary Cunningham, Mussel Watch Project lead, requested consideration of a composite of Mussel Watch Proposal Option Three and Four. This would enable the MRC to assist with NOAA collections using citizen science volunteers.

Chrys Bertolotto reported revised Beach Watcher, Recreational Crabber Education, and One Day University budgets were available. For instance, Task 2 could be removed from the Crabber Education proposal as WDFW is working on a similar display option.

Motion to approve project list as workplan with discussed changes until additional funding is available: Keeley O’Connell. Second: Brandon Jensen. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Shore Stewards Evaluation – Chrys Bertolotto

Shore Stewards is a free voluntary, self-paced program engaging shoreline residents in protecting Puget Sound by shifting property management decisions to align more closely with the 10 Guidelines for Shoreline Living and encouraging specific best management practices to improve the health of our resources. Through workshops, newsletters, and other resources, this program teaches increased understanding of the Puget Sound ecosystem and best management practices.

This grant-funded program started on Camano Island in 2002 and expanded to the Northwest Straits in 2006. There are now over 3,000 members in the Northwest Straits and Hood Canal with 466 members in Snohomish County. There are Shore Stewards throughout Snohomish County with room for improvement to recruit stewards from the Stanwood area.

The program evaluation supports positive behavior change among Shore Stewards. The 2011 program evaluation asked stewards to evaluate which of the 10 Guidelines for Shoreline Living they currently follow compared to before they joined. There was an increase in the number of guidelines followed after individuals became Shore Stewards. Stewards implementing 6-10 of the guidelines show the greatest behavior change. The top three guidelines followed include encouraging native plants, managing water runoff, and understanding bluff dynamics. Many stewards report they still plan to make changes. Others say they have not made changes because they were already following the guidelines, the guidelines are not applicable to their property, or they need more information. There is room to expand this program and the program staff is working to secure continued funding.

In the future, the program will seek to increase the number of Snohomish County Shore Stewards while continuing to provide existing stewards with new information through the monthly newsletters and the website. Ideas for program expansion include You-Tube videos and targeting landowners along the Qwuloolt estuary. Evaluation of the 10 Guidelines for Shoreline Living will occur at the time of reprinting.

NWSC Update – Thomas Hoban

At the April 29, 2011 NWSC meeting, Jerry Masters was appointed as Chair to the NWSC.

Jared Bond adjourned the meeting at 8:34 pm.

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting (MRC)

Meeting Summary

June 15, 2011, 2011 6:30-8:30 p.m.

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201

Admin East Building, 1st Floor, Public Hearing Room 2

<p>MRC Members Present Chrys Bertolotto Jared Bond Mary Cunningham Simon Geerlofs Brent Hackney Thomas Hoban Brandon Jensen Dawn Lawrence Lincoln Loehr Jerry Masters</p> <p>MRC Members Absent Keeley O'Connell, excused</p>	<p>Staff, Presenters, and Others Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County SWM Timothy Walls, Snohomish County SWM Mark Stamey, Snohomish County Public Works Cathy Stanley, Tulalip Tribes Brian Bain, Sound Salmon Solutions Brian Cleveland, WSU Beach Watchers</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Summary of Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes to the MRC bylaws were approved.• Simon Geerlofs was appointed as co-vice chair of the MRC.	
<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Next MRC Meeting: July 20, 2011 at 6:30 pm at the Snohomish County Campus• NWSC Meeting – June 24, 2011 in Snohomish County• Rockfish in the Salish Sea Conference: June 28-29, 2011 in Seattle• Beach Expos at local beaches 11 am – 3 pm: July 16th on Hat Island, July 30 at Mukilteo Lighthouse Park and August 13th at Kayak Point Park	

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, June 15, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Welcome and Introductions

Jared Bond opened the meeting with a quorum at 6:34 pm.

Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries and Announcements

Meeting Minute approval was skipped. This will be done at the next MRC meeting.

Public comment- Members of the public in attendance indicated that they are happy to be here observing and learning more about the MRC.

Announcements

- **CamOcean Festival– June 18, 2011**
 - 10:00 am – 4:00 pm at Cama Beach State Park
 - Chrys passed around flyers and book marks
 - Kathleen reminded members that MRC is signed up for a booth with the Island County MRC, all MRC members more than welcome.
- **Local Beach Expos 11 am – 3 pm**
 - July 16th on Hat Island, July 30 at Mukilteo Lighthouse Park and August 13th at Kayak Point Park. Kathleen asked if anyone on the MRC is interested in putting up the booth and staffing the event. Jerry signed up to attend one of the three. Mary indicated that she's done the Mukilteo event several times and was willing to do another one; Jerry agreed to do Mukilteo. Brent would be willing to do Hat Island. Mark Stamey could also be available to help at Kayak Point. Dawn could come down to Kayak Point for an hour. Chrys will send around a sign up list asking for volunteers and will coordinate with Kathleen.
- **Crabber Education getting started at local parks and boat ramps.** Chrys brought in crabber education packets that will be distributed to crabbers during this year's crabbing season. The message is geared towards keeping more crab by limiting derelict gear and putting back undersized crab.
- **Port Susan, Iverson Spit:** Dawn Lawrence mentioned that Port Susan Preserve is being widely promoted and as a result the preserve is getting crowded, without facilities to handle crowds (no parking, restrooms etc.). Homeowners are getting frustrated with the new use of the beach, negative feelings may have consequences for Port Susan collaborative activities.
- **Education & Outreach Subcommittee:** This sub-committee would like to have a meeting in the next month. Simon, Chrys and Kathleen will discuss and pick a time and get back to interested members.
- **NWSC meeting in Everett: Friday the June 24th, Port of Everett's new Building, Blue Heron Room.** MRC members are encouraged to attend, need to RSVP to Connie Price. Councilman Dave Somers will be there and give the welcome, first agenda item will be about the NWS reauthorization bill and other legislative and funding issues. Attending the morning session will allow MRC interaction with Councilman Somers, which would be a good thing to show support for the NWSI.
- **Rockfish in the Salish Sea Conference – June 28-29, 2011**
Register online at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/Other-Marine-Species/Puget-Sound-Marine-Fishes/upload/rockfish-wrkshp.pdf>

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
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Smith Island Restoration Project – Mark Stamey

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Smith Island Restoration Project was recently issued for public comment. A June 22nd public hearing in front of the hearing examiner is scheduled for verbal comments. All other comments need to be put in writing and submitted to Mark Stamey by July 6, 2011. The final EIS will be issued approximately two months after the comment period. The Snohomish County Council will have the final decision making authority on how to move forward.

Mark Stamey provided a brief project background on the project for MRC members. The current preferred alternative is to breach the existing dike in two places on a 460 acre property to provide twice daily tidal inundation. A new Setback dike would also be constructed. There has been controversy around inundation of agricultural land for environmental restoration purposes. The area is a high value estuarine habitat that integrates with other sites in the area to provide ecological value. The Draft EIS analyzed the proposed action and no action alternative—proposed action represents the highest value and cost efficiency (or max restoration) alternative. If MRC would like to make a comment, they must resubmit during this comment period.

Discussion was held on whether the MRC should attend the hearing and submit written comments. Mark Stamey indicated that a comment is a comment, written or verbal are taken the same way. MRC Members agreed to work to submit a letter of comment on the Draft EIS. Limiting comments to the written form would have the desired effect, allow for thorough well articulated comment.

Action: Mary Cunningham will review previous support letter, modify based on SEPA draft, send around for MRC approval, Jared Bond will sign and deliver to Kathleen Herrmann by the 5th for submission by the July 6th deadline.

Watershed Investment Districts Legislation – Tim Walls

Tim Walls delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the Watershed Investment District (WID) legislation. A handout on the watershed investment district was distributed and can be included in the notes to provide details on this innovative approach to filling salmon recovery funding gaps and coordinating recovery investment.

Currently, the planning team is in the process of working through issues and legal review of the draft legislation. A cross WRIA meeting will be held in July to discuss the legislation. Keeley O’Connell will represent the MRC at that meeting. Final legislation is planned for submittal in September-December 2011 for the 2012 session.

Questions on the presentation included; “who would submit legislation”? Tim indicated that right now that hasn’t been decided; the team is working with Governor’s office through the watershed districts and counties. Another question was; “how would something like this actually work”? Tim indicated that this is a way to invest in water resources to look for benefits at the systems scale—for example, opportunities to invest in forest land protection that could provide benefits both in the upper and lower watershed, where jurisdictions previously could not make those investments.

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting Summary, Wednesday, June 15, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Discussion was held about how salmon recovery forums could participate. These groups would have a seat at the table and work with MRCs and others to make investment recommendations. Also, the MRC discussed with so much collaboration already happening, and similar organizations, how to avoid burnout and too much overlap? Each WID can set up its own governing framework to determine how it will interact with other groups; other types of districts could be folded in and combined to contribute to collaboration and reduce overlap. At this time, the draft legislation is statewide.

Snohomish County MRC Bylaws

Jared Bond led the discussion on the proposed changes to the MRC's bylaws. The Executive Subcommittee provided a red-line document for MRC review.

- Issue 1: Provide MRC flexibility to add additional ex-officio members for one-year terms in order to improve coordination within Snohomish County.
- Issue 2: 2.5 Modify the attendance clause to state that if a member has two consecutive unexcused absences or four in a row, the MRC will consider the position vacated and request that the County Council fill the member's term with another appointee.
- Issue 3: 2.6 Formalize in bylaws that elections are held each calendar year, in January.
- Issue 4: 3.1 to make consistent with 2.6
- Issue 5: 3.2 gives the MRC flexibility to nominate up to two co-vice chairs.
- Issue 5: 3.3 consistency language "first regular meeting"
- Issue 6: 4.4 conflict of interest language—Strengthens language that MRC members "are required" to abstain from any decisions that could benefit themselves. All abstentions will be noted in meeting minutes.
- Issue 7: 5.1 clarifies that there while MRC meetings are all open to the public (subject to the open meeting act), there are some specific events that are not appropriate, project meetings by invitation are not considered "open meetings."
- Issue 8: 5.5 gives the MRC the flexibility to establish subcommittees as needed to develop and complete workplans. MRC members are required to participate in at least one subcommittee. Chrys Bertolotto suggested specifying the MRC should endeavor to establish a minimum of three subcommittees. The MRC agreed that this language was appropriate; Kathleen Herrmann will make the edit.

Motion to approve the bylaw changes as presented to include the verbal edits discussed at the meeting: Jerry Masters. Mary Cunningham seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

NWSC 6-month Grant

The NWSC provided the MRC a 6 month grant worth \$27,500 for the period of July 1-December 31, 2011. When the MRC approved the two year, \$199,000 budget at the last MRC meeting, several important items were not included in this budget. These items include approximately \$4,000 for travel and conferences for MRC Members and Staff, \$10,000 for the Washington Conservation Corp position, and money for supplies. The Executive Subcommittee proposed that the MRC continue with the current approved budget and use these additional funds as a buffer.

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The NWSC grant keeps the MRC funded through end of 2011; the next important step will be to maintain county funding. The Executive releases his budget September or October and this usually approved by council before Thanksgiving.

Kathleen Herrmann is still working through details of when 2011 funds will be dispersed to projects, beyond just county staff and admin issues (to projects). She plans to have a proposal together for the MRC by next meeting.

MRC Administration

Brandon Jensen has resigned from the MRC and is moving to Colorado for a new job. This means that the MRC has a vacant vice-chair position and the need for a leader for the forage fish project. Jared Bond will serve as interim project champion to shepherd this through until we can find an MRC member to take it on.

Action: Kathleen and Jerry will work to find a new forage fish specialist for the project and report back to the MRC. Options include Jon Houghton or new DFW staff (Dan Penttila's replacement).

Motion to nominate Simon Geerlofs as Co-vice Chair: Mary Cunningham. Lincoln Loehr seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The idea of forming a grant writing team will be tabled until next meeting. Brian Cleveland offered to perhaps provide assistance with grant writing.

Jared Bond proposed the idea of MRC members working more closely with Council Members. Additional discussion is needed on this, but the idea is to try to forge a closer relationship with council members to keep them informed on MRC issues.

The idea of linking the MRC Summer Picnic to coincide with the Beach Expo on August 13th at Kayak Point was proposed. Chrys will follow up with Kayak Point Park to see about reserving a shelter space. Skagit County and Island County MRC s will also be invited.

NWSC Update- Jerry Masters

The NWSC has been notified that they will not be included in the NOAA FY 2011 budget. The NWSC continues to work on the FY 2012 budget. Reauthorization language for the NWSI has cleared the committee in the Senate and Rep. Larsen is working to get a hearing in the House. If successful, reauthorization could build momentum for a NOAA budget mark in FY 12 or other source of federal funding. Ginny Broadhurst is busy pursuing all funding options, including a likely large grant from the EPA. MRCs should start to be creative in seeking other federal or local funding sources. The NWS Foundation may begin to take a much larger role in supporting regional projects and MRCs, as well as grant writing assistance. The MRC also needs to stress the value of our high quality projects and volunteer hours.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting (MRC)

Meeting Summary

July 20, 2011 6:30-8:30 p.m.

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201
Admin East Building, 1st Floor, Public Hearing Room 2

MRC Members Present Chrys Bertolotto Jared Bond Mary Cunningham Simon Geerlofs Thomas Hoban Dawn Lawrence Lincoln Loehr Jerry Masters Keeley O'Connell MRC Members Absent Brent Hackney, Excused	Staff, Presenters, and Others Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County SWM Emily Whitney, Snohomish County SWM Jim Johannessen, Coastal Geologic Services Caroline Gibson, NWSC Tom Teigen, Snohomish County Parks Chris Mueller, Snohomish County Parks Cathy Stanley, Tulalip Tribes Franchesca Perez, Stillaguamish Tribe Frederica Blissett, EDCC Thao Vo, EDCC
Summary of Decisions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The May 18, 2011 MRC meeting summary was approved.• The June 15, 2011 MRC meeting summary was approved.• MRC members agreed to cancel the August public MRC meeting in lieu of a potluck at a member's house.• MRC members approved the 6-month budget for all projects except Kayak Point Park.	
Upcoming Events	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beach Expos 11 am – 3 pm: July 30 at Mukilteo Lighthouse Park and August 13th at Kayak Point Park• Stillaguamish Festival of the River and Pow Wow: August 12-14, 2011 at River Meadows County Park.• MRC Member Picnic: August 18, 2011, hosted by Tom Hoban.	

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, July 20, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Welcome and Introductions

Jared Bond opened the meeting with a quorum at 6:30 pm.

Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries and Announcements

Motion to approve the May 18, 2011 Meeting Summary with edits submitted by Lincoln Loehr: Lincoln Loehr. Second: Mary Cunningham. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Motion to approve the June 15, 2011 Meeting Summary with edits submitted by Lincoln Loehr: Mary Cunningham. Second: Simon Geerlofs. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Public comment

Tom Teigen, Director of Snohomish County Parks and Recreation, attended to support and listen to the Kayak Point Lagoon Feasibility Study presentation.

Tom noted that the County is working to address potential bacteria sources from dog waste at County Parks with swimming beaches. This is a priority for the County.

Announcements

Announcements:

- The MRC Education & Outreach Subcommittee met July 20, 2011 to discuss strategic planning of messages and effective resource use. Ideas included creating one-page fact sheets for each project and posting the monthly MRC updates to the NWSC on www.snocomrc.org.
- The MRC clothing has arrived and can be picked up from Mary Cunningham.
- The recreational crabbing season opened July 1st and within the first two weeks approximately 1,500 packets were distributed in Snohomish County. Chrys Bertolotto reported overall feedback was positive. The NWSC recently received funding to support additional MRC crabber education efforts.
- Franchesca Perez announced following her MRC appointment, she will represent the Stillaguamish Tribe and can provide Stillaguamish Watershed updates.
- Tom Hoban shared that the *Spartina* infestation in Puget Sound has dropped from over 9,000 acres in 2003 to 12 acres in 2010, thanks to removal efforts.
- Caroline Gibson reported that the NWSC has secured a \$400,000 grant from the EPA. MRCs will receive \$27,500 of this funding to use in 2012.
- Lincoln Loehr reported that since the completion of the Mussel Watch report in June, the MRC received August 2009 data. The Department of Ecology used Mussel Watch data for the 303 (d) listing of impaired waters under the Clean Water Act. During the comment period, Lincoln commented on the use of Hat Island data.
- Kathleen Herrmann reported that all June grant deliverables were completed and submitted to the NWSC. Hard copies were passed around for MRC Members. Thank you to the MRC members who contributed to this considerable undertaking.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, July 20, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Events:

- Beach Expos: 11 am – 3 pm July 30, 2011 at Mukilteo Lighthouse Park and August 13, 2011 at Kayak Point. Jerry Masters will attend the Mukilteo event and Dawn Lawrence and Mark Stamey will be at Kayak Point.
- Sound Living, a One-Day Community: November 5, 2011 at Everett Community College. One presentation time is reserved for the MRC.
- Stillaguamish Festival of the River and Pow Wow: August 12-14, 2011 at River Meadows County Park.
- Jetty Island Float Find: August 20, 2011 at 10:30 am.
- NWSC Blue Ribbon Panel: August 18, 2011 at 3:00 pm at Padilla Bay.
- People For Puget Sound Volunteer Workparties at Union Slough: July 23 and July 30, 2011.
- People For Puget Sound's full-length documentary on Puget Sound: August 25, 2011 at 6:00 pm at the Seattle Aquarium.
- People For Puget Sound Volunteer Picnic – July 26, 2011, 6 – 9 pm at the Golden Gardens Picnic Area. RSVP to Mary Beth at mbdols@pugetsound.org
- MRC Potluck Picnic: August 18, 2011, hosted by Tom Hoban. MRC members should RSVP to Tom.

Motion to cancel August 17, 2011 public meeting in lieu of a MRC potluck on August 18th: Tom Hoban. Seconded: Dawn Lawrence. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Meetings:

- NWSC Meeting - July 29, 2011 at the Northwest Maritime Center in Port Townsend.
- Coastal Conservation Association North Snohomish County Chapter Meeting- August 9, 2011 7:00- 8:30 PM at Bayside Marine, 111 Craftsman Way, Everett.

MRC Kudos

The following individuals were recognized for their recent contributions to the MRC:

- MRC members for their great project work.
- Tom Hoban for representing the MRC at CamOcean, despite the rain.
- Brent Hackney, Chrys Bertolotto, and Emily Whitney for participating in the Hat Island Beach Expo.
- WSU Snohomish County Extension Beach Watchers for their work educating recreational crabbers.

Kayak Point Lagoon Feasibility Study – Jim Johannessen

Jim Johannessen, Coastal Geologic Services (CGS), presented the study findings on the feasibility of a barrier lagoon at Kayak Point County Park. Historically, the Kayak Point park site contained a barrier lagoon. The park restoration design plans propose including a lagoon at the north end of the park. Restoring a smaller version of the lagoon could provide an opportunity to recreate ecologically valuable wetlands used by a variety of nearshore species including juvenile salmon and provide educational opportunities.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
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Concerns surrounding the stability of a lagoon, prompted People For Puget Sound, Snohomish County Parks and Recreation and the MRC to sponsor the feasibility study.

CGS considered two lagoon size options; the larger size of 1.0-acre, recommended in the CGS report and the 0.6-acre lagoon proposed by the Snohomish County Parks Department. CGS used reference lagoons characteristics to predict the stability of the proposed lagoon inlets. The Bruun stability criterion rated the inlet stability of both designs as poor. Additional analysis indicated that the larger 1.0-acre lagoon would be more likely to remain open with minimal or no maintenance. Very limited data on Puget Sound tidal lagoon systems limited CGS' ability to predict better the stability of these lagoons.

CGS identified guidelines for lagoon design. These guidelines provided information on inlet size requirements, lagoon size and location, saltwater/wetland fringe, typical cross-sections, inlet location, inlet dynamics and stabilization recommendations, and expected substrate conditions. Additional guideline details are available in the study report.

The preliminary cost estimate for the 1.0-acre lagoon is \$832,000 based on the PSNERP consultant team method. The cost includes excavation, material removal, shore protection, and key lagoon design features. It does not include other features of the park restoration such as picnic shelter relocation. The 0.6-acre lagoon would cost approximately 75-80% of the cost of the larger lagoon size. Material removal costs could be reduced if the material were used in other areas of the park restoration.

In closing, Jim recommended against the 0.6-acre lagoon size, as it would not be large enough to be self-sustaining and encouraged the Parks Department to consider the larger 1.0-acre lagoon.

In the park restoration, the Snohomish County Parks and Recreation Department is considering cultural resources, sea level rise, long-term park planning and public input. Park users clearly expressed their desire for parking at public meetings. With the inclusion of either sized lagoon, parking would be reduced. Habitat restoration would draw park users and would provide valuable habitat and educational opportunities. Although, as park use is expected to increase, parking issues will need to be addressed. The Parks Department is considering options to make it easier for park users to use upper level parking. For all aspects of the restoration, available funding opportunities must be considered.

The project team will meet to discuss the project status and how to move forward.

Port Susan Project Update

Item held for the next meeting due to time.

Budget Review

The MRC will receive \$27,500 grant from the NWSC for July - December 2011. With the addition of these NWSC funds and because the MRC did not hire a SWM summer intern, the MRC has \$56,245 remaining in the SWM budget for the rest of 2011. SWM fee funds

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, July 20, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

must be spent by December 31, 2011. The Executive subcommittee proposed that the additional funds be divided among projects that could use funds prior to December. Specifically, \$12,000 would be added to the Forage Fish Surveys budget to cover 120 hours of a consultant's time necessary in light of Brandon Jensen's departure. An additional \$8000 would be used for Port Susan MSA strategy implementation and \$31,040 could be used to move forward with the Kayak Point Park Restoration Project. Mussel Watch and the WSU Snohomish County Extension Beach Watcher Training were not included in the 6-month project workplan as project work would begin after December. This distribution of funds was based on current project proposals. Additional project ideas may be sent to Kathleen Herrmann prior to next MRC meeting.

The presentation on the feasibility of a lagoon at Kayak Point Park raised questions about how to move forward with the project. The project team will meet to address these questions and determine how to best use MRC funding. The MRC will revisit the Kayak Point project spending at the next meeting.

Motion: Approve all 6-month project budgets as presented except for the Kayak Point project budget: Dawn Lawrence. Second: Simon Geerlofs. All were in favor and the motion passed.

NWSC Update – Jerry Masters

The NWSC will convene a Blue Ribbon Panel on August 18, 2011 at 3:00 pm at Padilla Bay. Senator Patty Murray will attend.

Thank you to Simon Geerlofs for submitting MRC project descriptions to the Puget Sound Partnership. The deadline for submission was extended, allowing time for the Port Susan MSA strategies to be listed as well. The NWSC encourages MRCs to line projects up with the Action Agenda and have projects ready to go for future funding opportunities.

Jared Bond adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting (MRC)

Meeting Summary

September 21, 2011 6:30-8:30 p.m.

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201

Admin East Building, 1st Floor, Public Hearing Room 2

<p>MRC Members Present Chrys Bertolotto Jared Bond Mary Cunningham Simon Geerlofs Brent Hackney Thomas Hoban Jerry Masters</p> <p>MRC Members Absent Lincoln Loehr, excused Keeley O’Connell, excused Franchesca Perez, excused Cathy Stanley, excused</p>	<p>Staff, Presenters, and Others Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County SWM Emily Whitney, Snohomish County SWM Jess Sayles, Arizona State University Brian Boehm, Sound Salmon Solutions</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Summary of Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The July 20, 2011 MRC meeting summary was approved.• MRC member Retreat was scheduled for November 18, 2011.• MRC members approved the Executive Subcommittee’s recommendation for the allocation of the remaining 2011 MRC funding.• MRC members approved submission of a grant pre-proposal for Port Susan targeted outreach to reduce armoring.	
<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MRC Meeting – October 19, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM at the Snohomish County Campus• Northwest Straits Commission Meeting – November 4, 2011 at the Tulalip Administration Building in Snohomish County• Sound Living: A One-Day “Communiversality” Exploring the Connections Between Water, Land and People – November 5, 2011 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM at Everett Community College• Sustainable Path Foundation: Ocean Acidification Seminar – November 8, 2011, 5:30 – 9:00 PM at the Seattle Town Hall. Learn more at www.sustainablepath.org.	

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, September 21, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Welcome and Introductions

Jared Bond opened the meeting with a quorum at 6:34 pm.

Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries and Announcements

Motion to approve the July 20, 2011 Meeting Summary: Jerry Masters. Second: Simon Geerlofs. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Public comment

Brian Boehm of Sound Salmon Solutions announced that Sound Salmon Solutions (formerly Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force) is relocating to Lake Stevens. They are excited to be moving into a 3-acre complex.

Announcements

Announcements:

- Chrys Bertolotto shared that she will be beginning a graduate program at Antioch University this fall.
- Brent Hackney addressed the draft MRC Letters of Support for the Puget Sound Partnership's landslide debris work and for Snohomish County's Puget Sound Pathogen Prevention grant proposal. Brent supports the letter to the Partnership but would like additional details on the Pathogen Prevention proposal.
- Tom Hoban shared that Port of Everett Commissioner Mark Wolken was appointed to the Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council in September. Tom believes that Mark will be able to add valuable local knowledge and input to the council.
- Dawn Lawrence resigned from the MRC after almost 9 years on the MRC. The Executive subcommittee will coordinate a card and gift to thank Dawn for her leadership and contribution to the MRC.
- Jared Bond announced that the strategic plan will be approved at the October meeting. Significant effort has already gone into developing this plan.

Action: MRC members will be emailed the strategic plan draft prior to the October meeting. Members may submit critical comments to the Executive Subcommittee.

Events:

- Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference: October 25-27, 2011 in Vancouver, B.C. Lincoln Loehr will present a Mussel Watch poster and Kathleen Herrmann will give a presentation on the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area.
- Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda Open House: October 3, 2011, 4:30 – 7:00 pm at the WDFW Mill Creek Office. The Puget Sound Partnership is inviting the public to meetings to help determine the steps needed to restore the health of Puget Sound.

Action: Chrys Bertolotto and Jerry Masters will the open house.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, September 21, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

- MRC Forage Fish Spawning Survey Training: September 29, 2011, 9:30 am – 4:00 pm at the Snohomish County WSU Extension office. MRC members are encouraged to attend.
- Sound Living: A One-Day “Communiversality” Exploring the Connections Between Water, Land and People: November 5, 2011, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm at Everett Community College. There will be MRC presentations on Mussel Watch and the Port Susan MSA and a MRC display. The MRC will cover member registration costs.

Action: To register for Sound Living, MRC members should complete the paper registration form sent by Chrys Bertolotto.

- NWSC Conference: December 2-3, 2011 in Port Townsend. MRC members will receive an email from Connie Price with registration details.

Meetings:

- Northwest Straits Commission Meeting – November 4, 2011 at the Tulalip Administration Building in Snohomish County. MRC Members are welcome to attend.

MRC Kudos

The following individuals were recognized for their recent contributions to the MRC:

- Mary Cunningham for coordinating MRC clothing order and thanks to Tom Hoban for holding on to the materials for the next order.

MRC Project Updates – Simon Geerlofs

Project leads provided project updates using the questions identified by the Education and Outreach Subcommittee as a guideline. The purpose was to inform MRC members about projects and help the subcommittee see where they might assist with project messaging and outreach support.

Chrys Bertolotto updated the MRC on *Sound Living: A One-Day “Communiversality” Exploring the Connections Between Water, Land and People*. The event will be held on November 5th at Everett Community College. It is modeled after the Sound Waters event held on Whidbey Island and will feature over 40 presentations. WSU Snohomish County Extension Beach Watchers are organizing the event with funding support from the MRC.

Brent Hackney gave an update on the Recreational Crabber Education project. The project message is “Keep Your Crab Pot, Eat More Crabs.” During the summer crabbing season, the MRC worked with Beach Watchers to distribute educational packets. The packets were provided by WDFW and included free escape cord and calipers, information on crabbing regulations and escape cord, and the MRC nautical chart featuring tips for avoiding crab pot loss. The subcommittee is planning for winter crabbing outreach.

Mary Cunningham presented on Mussel Watch. The project purpose is to gain an understanding of the contaminant distribution and trends in Snohomish County marine waters. The project report is available on the MRC webpage. With limited or no sample

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
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collection scheduled for this winter, focus will be placed on developing outreach materials. There will be a poster at the Salish Sea Conference and a presentation at Sound Living.

Post Meeting Update- Funding has been secured for Mussel Watch Sampling through NOAA, The Tulalip Tribes and the Stillaguamish Tribe.

Kathleen Herrmann spoke on the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area Project. The project purpose is to bring scientists, resource managers, and the public together to protect and restore Port Susan through a non-regulatory ecosystem based management plan. The Conservation Action Plan will be completed in 2011. The project Advisory Committee is discussing strategy implementation with other agencies and working to secure continued project funding. The Education and Outreach Committee could assist with designing and installing signs in Port Susan.

Mary Cunningham updated the MRC on the Nearshore Sediment Study. The project purpose is to identify and prioritize potential restoration projects along the railroad impacted shoreline between Mukilteo and Everett. Guided by stakeholder input, the consulting firm, Anchor QEA, will finalize the 30% project designs this year. County staff is coordinating with other agencies to hand off the project for implementation.

Chrys Bertolotto updated the MRC on the Shore Stewards Program. The program engages shoreline residents in protecting Puget Sound by encouraging specific suggested best management practices to improve the health of our resources. Participants are provided with the “10 Guidelines for Shoreline Living” and other resources including a newsletter. As funding is available, efforts will be made to integrate the results from program evaluation completed in early 2011 and review the 10 Guidelines.

The Forage Fish project, Beach Watchers, Kayak Point, and Oil Spill Preparedness project updates will be held until the next meeting due to time.

Budget Review

The MRC discussed the allocation of remaining funds for 2011. Currently, the MRC has \$47, 147 in unallocated funds that must be spent by December 31, 2011. Members were presented with a budget sheet identifying funding sources, project spending, and potential project options. The 6-month spending workplan includes MRC Administration and Travel, Beach Watcher Training, Forage Fish Surveys, Sound Living Funding, and Port Susan MSA strategy implementation.

The Executive subcommittee recommended spending \$31,000 of the remaining funds among the King/Snohomish County Nourishment Partnership (\$20,000), the Marine Mammal Stranding Signs and Workshops (\$7,316), Shore Stewards support (\$2,000), and a facilitator for the MRC Retreat (\$1,000). The Kayak Point Boat Launch Feasibility Study and the Meadowdale Park Feasibility study were not recommended for funding due to concerns about time constraints and the amount of work to be done.

The King/Snohomish County Nourishment Partnership is a part of a Nearshore Sediment Study that Kollin Higgins of King County is coordinating. The study will examine and compare several types of restoration in the nearshore, the feasibility of the options, and develop monitoring plans. MRC funding would allow the area south of Mukilteo to the

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King County line to be included in the project. An existing interlocal agreement with King County could allow MRC funds to be directed to the project efficiently.

The Marine Mammal Stranding Network is expanding south from Kayak Point down through King County. MRC funding to support a Stranding Network training and informational signage would allow greater Snohomish County involvement. Chrys Bertolotto will coordinate the training workshop and placement of marine mammal stranding signs at Snohomish County-area parks.

Motion to accept the Executive Subcommittee’s recommendation for the remaining funding and retain the remainder for appeal to director Terwilleger: Jerry Masters. Second: Mary Cunningham. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MRC Retreat

The MRC plans to hold a one-day retreat for members this fall. Based on the responses received from the online survey and during the meeting, Friday, November 18, 2011 was selected. This full day retreat would likely replace the November public meeting.

Possible topics of discussion for the retreat include a Message Box Exercise, a GAP analysis, project evaluations, and work to define subcommittees.

MRC Marine and Nearshore Grant Proposal

Kathleen Herrmann is working on a grant proposal with the NWSF for targeted outreach to reduce future armoring in Port Susan. The project objective would be to conduct targeted outreach to reduce the ecosystem impacts of hardening of the marine shoreline in the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area. The project would include a technical workshop for county planning staff, workshops for coastal landowners, and the development of educational materials on soft shore armoring. The pre-proposal is due September 26, 2011. If selected, a full proposal would be made available to the MRC for review.

Motion to support submission of project pre-proposal to WDFW: Jerry Masters. Second: Mary Cunningham. All were in favor and the motion passed.

NWSC Update – Jerry Masters

The NWSC is spending significant time discussing funding with other groups, including the Puget Sound Partnership, NOAA, the EPA and WDFW. The Commission will likely approach groups with specific funding requests this fall.

Jared Bond adjourned the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting (MRC)

Meeting Summary

October 19, 2011 6:30-8:30 p.m.

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201

Admin East Building, 1st Floor, Public Hearing Room 2

<p>MRC Members Present Jared Bond Mary Cunningham Thomas Hoban Lincoln Loehr Jerry Masters Keeley O’Connell Franchesca Perez Cathy Stanley</p> <p>MRC Members Absent Chrys Bertolotto, excused Simon Geerlofs, excused Brent Hackney, excused</p>	<p>Staff, Presenters, and Others Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County SWM Kara Black, UW Graduate Student Diana Pietri, UW Graduate Student</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Summary of Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The September 21, 2011 MRC meeting summary was approved.• MRC members approved the Strategic Plan.	
<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MRC Meeting – November 16, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM at the Snohomish County Campus• Northwest Straits Commission Meeting – November 4, 2011 at the Tulalip Administration Building in Snohomish County• Sound Living: A One-Day “Communiversality” Exploring the Connections Between Water, Land and People – November 5, 2011 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM at Everett Community College• Sustainable Path Foundation: Ocean Acidification Seminar – November 8, 2011, 5:30 – 9:00 PM at the Seattle Town Hall. Learn more at www.sustainablepath.org.• NWSC Conference – December 2-3, 2011 in Port Townsend.	

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, October 19, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Welcome and Introductions

Jared Bond opened the meeting with a quorum at 6:32 pm.

Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries and Announcements

Motion to approve September 21, 2011 MRC Meeting Summary was seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Public comment

Kara Black and Diana Pietri, UW graduate students, described a project they are starting on dealing with “managing collaborations” and they were focusing on the Snohomish and San Juan MRCs. The course is through the University of Washington Evans School Of Public Affairs. The students have been reading academic literature about collaboration, and now are looking at how these concepts actually play out. They are covering group process, legitimacy, trust, governance and administrative skills.

Announcements

Announcements:

- Jared Bond suggested that the MRC consider postponing the retreat until after the MRC conference. The MRC Members agreed.
- The MRC Conference in Port Townsend needs auction items and donations. Each MRC was asked to make a basket to auction or consider donating an experience.
- In lieu of a December MRC meeting, the MRC will have a holiday party. Jared Bond offered to host it at his home in Edmonds.
- The Edmonds Marsh project feasibility study may be funded through the Salmon Recovery Board. The study focused on access and foraging ability for juvenile Chinook. There will also be an outreach project for streamside property owners similar to the grant that was submitted to the MRC.
- Mary Cunningham announced that there is an individual from the City of Everett Parks Department who will apply to the MRC when Mary completes her final MRC term in December.
- Franchesca Perez talked about a Nature Conservancy project and also described how the Stillaguamish Tribe applied for a Natural Estuary grant to acquire Triangle Cove. Triangle cove is a 200 acre pocket estuary, with abundant eelgrass beds and mussels.

Events:

- People For Puget Sound Open House: November 3, 2011 at their downtown Seattle office from 4:00 – 8:00 PM.
- Livable Snohomish County Summit and Candidate Forum – Learning about Our Water Resources: October 29, 2011 at Snohomish County PUD building from 9 AM – 4 PM.
- Sustainable Path Foundation: Ocean Acidification Seminar – November 8, 2011 at the Seattle Town Hall from 5:30 – 9PM. Learn more at www.sustainablepath.org. The MRC booth at this event will be staffed by Lincoln and Jerry.
- Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference: October 25-27, 2011 in Vancouver, B.C. Lincoln Loehr will present a Mussel Watch poster and Kathleen Herrmann will give a presentation on the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, October 19, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

- Sound Living: A One-Day “Communiversality” Exploring the Connections Between Water, Land and People: November 5, 2011, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm at Everett Community College. MRC specific presentations include Mussel Watch and the Port Susan MSA. The MRC booth will be on display. The MRC will cover member registration costs.
- NWSC Conference: December 2-3, 2011 in Port Townsend. Kathleen reminded people to register. Lodging, ferry costs, and mileage are grant reimbursable.

Meetings:

- Northwest Straits Commission Meeting – November 4, 2011 at the Tulalip Administration Building in Snohomish County. MRC Members are encouraged to attend.

MRC Project Updates – Simon Geerlofs

This discussion was shelved until next meeting since Simon Geerlofs was not able to attend this meeting.

Nearshore Sediment Study:

The MRC was named in a permit letter from NOAA/NMFS to the US Army Corp for dredging in the Snohomish River. The letter outlines a framework for how the Snohomish Marine Resource Committee, Snohomish County, the City of Everett, and the Corp can begin working together to use the sites identified through the Nearshore Sediment Study as a beneficial uses for clean, appropriate sized sediment from the yearly Snohomish River Dredging.

Jerry Masters suggested that the MRC write a thank you letter to our regional EPA Administrator, Will Stelle, for his assistance in facilitating this win-win situation to find a beneficial use for this material which would normally be disposed at a deep water disposal site in Puget Sound.

Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area – Kathleen Herrmann

Kathleen Herrmann is working to schedule a joint Island and Snohomish MRC meeting at which to present the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area (MSA) Conservation Action Plan. The joint meeting is a grant deliverable.

Action: The Snohomish MRC will attend Island MRC’s December 6th meeting in Coupeville from 3:30 – 5:30 pm.

On November 10th, there was a workshop to discuss the embedded invertebrate target (formally bivalves). Kathleen Herrmann reported that the workshop went well and the team was able to make some good decisions regarding the target. A handout was distributed to MRC members outlining the decisions made at the workshop.

Kathleen Herrmann will present on the Port Susan MSA at the Salish Sea Conference on October 27, 2011 and to the Stillaguamish Clean Water District Board on November 17, 2011 and is working to schedule a presentation to the County Agricultural Board.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, October 19, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Strategic Plan – Jared Bond

Jared discussed the 2011-2016 MRC Strategic Plan and the comments received. Corrections made in response to the comments. Some undefined organizations and acronyms were clarified. Kathleen updated the staff roles. A section on the NW Straits was added. Some additional changes were offered by MRC members and accepted.

**Motion to approve the Strategic Plan as amended: Jerry Masters.
Second: Keeley O’Connell. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

NWSC Update – Jerry Masters

Jerry Masters gave an update on the current funding situation of the Northwest Straits Commission. The NWSC was hoping for a better response from funders based on the 12 years of volunteer involvement. Jerry is emphasizing the need to reauthorize the NWSC in Congress. If the funding scenario does not change, the Commission will be forced to reduce staff and the funding that is provided to each MRC. It is likely that many MRCs will continue at the local level and continue doing projects as funding allows. In the last 6 months, the Commission has saved another \$40,000 from the 2010 funding. One suggestion is to work to encourage Congress to reauthorize the Commission without funding to legitimize the NWSC. The Northwest Straits Foundation exists now to support the NWSC work. Over time this role may change the Foundation will also support MRC work.

New Members

The MRC would like to give its two new members an opportunity to introduce themselves.

Franchesca Perez has worked for the Stillaguamish Tribe since 2003. Initially she worked to implement government programs, but has since shifted to outreach on marine work. She also coordinates the Stillaguamish Festival of the River, held each summer.

Cathy Stanley has worked with the Tulalip Tribes since 2004. She came from the Midwest and previously worked with the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife. She works on harvest management, tracking commercial harvest (crab and geoducks), and water quality sampling.

Team Building Activity

The MRC Members, staff and guests played a game to get to know each other better. Keeley O’Connell facilitated the game. The game entails listing three things about yourself; two of which are true and one of which is a lie. Others’ job is to guess what the lie is. Folks learned a lot of funny things about each other and enjoyed the activity.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting (MRC)

Meeting Summary

November 16, 2011 6:30-8:30 p.m.

3000 Rockefeller Ave, Snohomish County Campus, Everett WA 98201

Admin East Building, 1st Floor, Public Hearing Room 2

MRC Members Present Chrys Bertolotto Jared Bond Mary Cunningham Simon Geerlofs Brent Hackney Thomas Hoban Lincoln Loehr Jerry Masters Keeley O'Connell Franchesca Perez Cathy Stanley	Staff, Presenters, and Others Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish County SWM Gregg Farris, Snohomish County SWM Emily Whitney, Snohomish County SWM Bob Hillmann, City of Everett Walter Rung, Adopt-A-Steam Dana Steele, WSU Beach Watcher
Summary of Decisions <ul style="list-style-type: none">· The October 19, 2011 MRC meeting summary was approved.· MRC members agreed to cancel the public MRC meeting in December in lieu of a holiday party.· A letter of support for the WDFW Marine and Nearshore Grant was approved with changes.	
Upcoming Events <ul style="list-style-type: none">· WSU Snohomish County Extension Beach Watchers' present "Our Puget Sound In-Depth: Salmon and Toxics in the Marine Environment" – January 4, 2012, 7:00 PM at the Mukilteo City Council Chambers.· Starlight Beach Walk – January 20, 2012, 7:30 – 9:00 PM at Edmonds Olympic Beach. Bring your flashlight and sense of adventure! Contact Chrys Bertolotto (chrys@wsu.edu) for more information.	

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, November 16, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Welcome and Introductions

Jared Bond opened the meeting with a quorum at 6:34 pm.

Approval of MRC Meeting Summaries and Announcements

Motion to approve the October 19, 2011 MRC Meeting Summary: Mary Cunningham. Seconded: Lincoln Loehr. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Public comment

Walter Rung shared that Adopt-A-Stream received grant funding to do restoration work in Lund's Gulch, Picnic Point, and Perrinville Creeks. They are hosting a volunteer planting event at Meadowdale Park on November 17th at 10:30 AM.

Announcements

Announcements:

- Former MRC member and chair, Dawn Lawrence passed away on November 15, 2011. As a biology teacher with a strong interest in marine biology, Dawn contributed greatly to the MRC over her 9 years of volunteer service.

Action: The MRC will write a letter for Dawn's family. Stories and memories can be sent to Jerry Masters and Mary Cunningham.

- Franchesca Perez is coordinating tours of the Stillaguamish Tribe Hatchery in December.
- Keeley O'Connell shared that People For Puget Sound is looking to co-host a Pier Peer event in Everett during January 2012.

Events:

- NWSC Conference: December 2-3, 2011 in Port Townsend. Jared Bond is coordinating the MRC's silent auction contribution; a basket of local items.

Action: Emily Whitney will coordinate carpooling to the conference via email.

- People For Puget Sound Planting Party – December 3, 2011, 10 AM – 2 PM at Union Slough.
- Seal Sitter Training – December 5, 2011, 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM at McCollum Park in Everett. Come learn about the seals that frequent our beach, how to 'seal sit' to prevent harm, educate people on the beach and be available to respond when the seals come to our beaches! Funded by the Snohomish MRC.
- Snohomish County Boards & Commissions Appreciation Open House – December 5, 2011, 5-6 PM in the Snohomish County Public Meeting Rooms.
- MRC Holiday Party – December 15, 2011, 6:00 PM. Jared Bond will host the MRC for a holiday celebration at his home in Lynnwood.

Motion to cancel the public MRC meeting on December 21, 2011 in lieu of a holiday party: Keeley O'Connell. Seconded: Mary Cunningham. All were in favor and the motion passed.

- WSU Snohomish County Extension Beach Watchers' present "Our Puget Sound In-Depth: Salmon and Toxics in the Marine Environment" – January 4, 2012, 7:00 PM at the Mukilteo City Council Chambers.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, November 16, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

- Starlight Beach Walk – January 20, 2012, 7:30 – 9:00 PM at Edmonds Olympic Beach. Bring your flash light and sense of adventure! Contact Chrys Bertolotto (chrys@wsu.edu) for more information.

Meetings:

- Joint Island and Snohomish County MRC Meeting – December 6, 2011, 3:30-5:30 PM in Coupeville.

Action: Emily Whitney will coordinate carpooling by email.

MRC Kudos

The following individuals were recognized for their recent contributions to the MRC:

- Chrys Bertolotto for her and Beach Watchers' work coordinating Sound Living.
- Lincoln Loehr, Jerry Masters, and Emily Whitney for attending the Seattle Town Hall Ocean Acidification event on behalf of the MRC.
- Chrys Bertolotto for coordinating the Seal Sitter Training and marine mammal signs.

MRC Project Updates – Simon Geerlofs

Project leads provided updates using the questions identified by the Education and Outreach Subcommittee. The purpose was to inform MRC members about projects and help the subcommittee see where they might assist with project messaging and outreach.

Keeley O'Connell updated the MRC on the Kayak Point Park Restoration Planning. In partnership with the Snohomish County Parks Department and People For Puget Sound, the MRC completed a series of public outreach workshops to gather feedback on the park redesign. In 2011, the MRC and People For Puget Sound funded a study to assess the feasibility of including a barrier lagoon in the restoration. The study indicated that the proposed 0.6 acre lagoon entrance from Puget Sound would likely open and close intermittently and thus not provide the intended benefit to juvenile salmon. Although the project phase is complete, the Education and Outreach Subcommittee could assist with making the pre-restoration beach monitoring data collected by WSU Beach Watchers publically available. The MRC will continue to keep an open relationship with the Parks Department and look for ways to support further restoration and enhancement of Kayak Point Park for both listed species and human users.

Jerry Masters spoke on the Marine and Nearshore Grant Application. The purpose of the grant is to educate shoreline landowners and planners about softshore armoring. The proposed project would provide training on softshore armoring techniques and professional consultations to landowners with the goal of eliminating hard shore armoring. Grant funders asked the MRC for a full proposal due November 30, 2011. Jerry shared a draft letter of support for the project. Edits were made to include WSU Shore Stewards. Chrys Bertolotto indicated that the list of Shores Stewards is proprietary and not available to the MRC. Jared Bond will sign the letter on behalf of the MRC.

Motion to approve the Marine and Nearshore Grant Support Letter with changes: Mary Cunningham. Seconded: Brent Hackney. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Forage Fish, Beach Watchers and Oil Spill Preparedness project updates will be held until the next meeting due to time.

**Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, Wednesday, November 16, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Puget Sound Ambient Water Quality Monitoring – Jim West, WDFW

Jim West presented on “Toxic Contaminants in Puget Sound’s Marine Biota” with a special focus on Snohomish County. The information presented is a product of the Puget Sound Assessment and Monitoring Program (PSAMP). PSAMP is a network of scientists who monitor indicators of ecosystem health. The program links science and management through asking questions such as “Which chemicals in Puget Sound are most worrisome?” and “How are conditions changing over time?” The Puget Sound Partnership is incorporating PSAMP data in their Dashboard of Indicators to create recovery goals.

Jim highlighted several types of contaminants in Puget Sound. Studies of benthic species show PCBs are concentrated in urban bays with intermediate levels in Snohomish County. The health of killer whales may be impacted by PCB levels found in Puget Sound salmon.

At several Puget Sound locations, PAH remediation efforts have led to a decreasing prevalence of PAH-induced liver disease. One reason for this decline could be the removal of numerous creosote pilings, which contain PAHs.

Compounds found in wastewater are an emerging concern. Xenoestrogens, a class of Endocrine Disruptors, disrupt reproduction in fish and can be found in wastewater. When exposed to xenoestrogens, abnormal vitellin (egg yolk) production is seen in males and altered reproduction timing is seen in females. Males with detectable levels of vitellin have been found throughout Puget Sound.

Puget Sound fish are exposed to a great number of contaminants. While recovery has been seen related to PAH levels, Persistent Bio-accumulative Toxins and Endocrine Disrupting Compounds remain a problem.

Marine Mammal Signs – Chrys Bertolotto

Chrys Bertolotto is coordinating the MRC purchase of several marine mammal stranding signs to be displayed at local beaches. There are two sign designs both of which provide information for the public on what to do if they encounter a seal pup on the beach, including the appropriate procedure and contact numbers for reporting and response. The MRC logo will be on the signs.

The signs will be donated to local municipalities, who will then be responsible for installation and maintenance. Chrys received requests for 9 signs to be distributed between Meadowdale, Picnic Point, Kayak Point, Ebey’s Waterfront and Howarth Parks and Hat Island. Current funding will likely cover the cost of 6-7 signs, thus some locations may receive one sign. There was discussion about potential funding sources for the remaining signs. Chrys will order the signs in December and installation will occur in early 2012.

NWSC Update – Jerry Masters

Jerry Masters announced that at a recent event the Puget Sound Anglers raised \$3,000 for the NWSF to support derelict gear removal. Puget Sound Anglers have long been supporters of the Northwest Straits Initiative.

Jared Bond adjourned the meeting at 8:34 pm.

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

WWW.ISLANDCOUNTYMRC.ORG



Minutes

Prepared by Dan Pedersen

Dec. 6, 2011

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM B-102, COUNTY ANNEX, COUPEVILLE

Special Joint Meeting of Island and Snohomish MRCs

PRESENT:

Island County MRC: Chair **Ian Jefferds** presiding for Island County, **Lenny Corin, Leal Dickson, Sarah Haynes, Joe Hillers, Angie Homola** (ex-officio, non voting), **Tim Lawrence, Steve Mitchell, Linda Rhodes, Dick Toft, Ken Urstad, Stan Walsh, Frances Wood, Todd Zackey**, Executive Director **Rex Porter**, Communications Manager **Dan Pedersen**. **ABSENT**: **Marshall Bronson** (traveling), **Chris Jerome** (business conflict).

Snohomish County MRC: Chair **Jared Bond** presiding for Snohomish County, **Mary Cunningham, Thomas Hoban, Lincoln Loehr, Jerry Masters, Keeley O'Connell**, MRC member and restoration ecologist, People for Puget Sound; **Cathy Stanley; Kathleen Herrmann**, lead staff; **Emily Whitney**, program assistant. **ABSENT**: **Chrys Bertolotto** (ex-officio), **Simon Geerlofs, Brent Hackney, Franchesca Perez**.

VISITORS: **Abby Hook**, hydrologist for the Tulalip Tribes, staffing the MSA project; **Megan Massaua**, coordinator for the MSA project hired by Washington Sea Grant and a student in the University of Washington's School of Marine and Environmental Affairs; **Ginny Broadhurst**, director, Northwest Straits Initiative; **Nancy Waddell**, Whidbey Watershed Stewards; **Scott Chase**, coordinator, Island County Shore Stewards; **Peg Urstad**, WSU Beach Watchers Advisory Council; **Barbara Bennett**, coordinator, WSU Island County Beach Watchers.

CALL TO ORDER: 3:35 pm. Jefferds called the meeting to order. **QUORUM**: Declared by Jefferds for Island County and by Bond for Snohomish County. **AGENDA**: Approved as published. **MINUTES** of Island County MRC meeting of Nov. 15, 2011: Approved. Motion by Toft, second by Urstad, carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

Decisions / Action Items

Port Susan Bay Marine Stewardship Area

Snohomish – Island MRC Joint Resolution

Motion carried. Motion by Toft, second by Haynes, carried unanimously by both MRCs, with Homola abstaining as an ex-officio, non-voting member of Island MRC. The Island and Snohomish

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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MRCs support and recommend county leaders accept the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area draft plan as outlined. Friendly amendment by Masters, accepted by Toft and Haynes, adding that Snohomish MRC joins in this support and recommendation.

Island County MRC Resolution

At the recommendation of Lawrence and Homola, for procedural purposes, the resolution also was presented for a separate vote of Island County MRC only. **Motion carried. Motion by Toft, second by Haynes, carried unanimously with Homola abstaining as an ex-officio, non-voting member. The Island County MRC supports and recommends county leaders accept the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area draft plan as outlined.**

Revised budget. Motion carried. Motion by Lawrence, second by Urstad, carried unanimously, to accept the revised budget as presented.

Clarification of county relationship to Guillemot Research Group. MRC funds were awarded to the Guillemot Research Group specifically for a field study to support the intern who performed the census. To be clear, the Guillemot Research Group, the Guillemot website and the Guillemot Facebook page, maintained by Guillemot volunteers, are not affiliated with Island County MRC or any other Island County government agency.

Overview of Port Susan Bay MSA Draft Plan

Presented by Abby Hook & Kathleen Herrmann

Hook pointed out that Port Susan Bay falls under multiple jurisdictions and interests – two counties and two tribes, plus agriculture and fishing interests and one city. Historically, it has not been viewed from the perspective of a whole ecosystem. It falls under two salmon recovery plans and two MRCs. The Department of Natural Resources manages its aquatic lands. For a planning model the Port Susan working team chose The Nature Conservancy's Conservation Action Planning (CAP) approach, the same model San Juan County MRC used when setting up its own science-based, community-driven, marine stewardship area. She said the open standards conservation approach currently in use by the Puget Sound Partnership for regional recovery follows pretty much the same framework.

Work on this plan really began in 2008 when the two MRCs defined the project. Since then the Port Susan team carried out environmental analysis, examined threats and developed strategies. Now, in 2011, they are seeking the plan's adoption by the two MRCs, followed by approval of the plan by elected leaders of both counties, and then implementation. Hook said CAP is a flexible adaptive management tool. The advisory team included about 15 individuals representing The Nature Conservancy, Northwest Straits Commission, WSU Beach Watchers, Shore Stewards, Sea Grant, MRCs, the Stillaguamish and Tulalip tribes, and others. As they got into developing the information in the plan they held a series of workshops bringing together scientific researchers, managers on the lands, agriculture and other interests. They reached out to as many groups as possible that would have a stake in Port Susan.

A key question was how to define full ecosystem recovery. This was addressed by a science workshop in 2010 that brought together about 65 scientists. Targets were identified and their current condition evaluated in relation to the desired goals. The final workshop was devoted to strategies and was held last March. Hook pointed out that strategies can be approached either of two ways. One way is to carry out direct viability enhancement, also known as restoration. The other approach is threat abatement. So for example, if shoreline armoring is a problem, a program could be put into place to limit future armoring.

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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The team identified 10 objectives to either abate threats or improve target health. Hook said one advantage of setting up the MSA using the CAP process is that they now have a series of objectives that are directly uploadable into the Puget Sound Partnership's Action Agenda. She said the PSP has issued many requests for strategies specific to local areas and they were able to take everything out of their report and send it up to the regional level.

Hook emphasized that the planning team did not actually create very many new strategies; to a large degree they pulled together strategies that already existed in many other plans of the two counties and added some complementary strategies. Herrmann said they've already seen several grant proposals spin off of these strategies, including a joint Snohomish/Island MRC proposal to reduce shoreline armoring through targeted outreach and the Snohomish Camano EcoNet grant which was recently funded.

Finally, Hook emphasized it is important to recognize the partners who invested significant volunteer hours and cash toward this effort. The team received benchmark funds. A large match also was provided by the Tulalip Tribes and The Nature Conservancy paid for the facilitator of all the workshops. Broadhurst commented the Northwest Straits Commission recently was invited to submit some ideas for project proposals to The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on an extremely quick turnaround. In response, the EPA awarded \$70,000 to the Port Susan project.

Hook said she hopes to keep the advisory team together for the next year to develop the workplan, identifying which groups are most appropriate to adopt each strategy. She anticipates the team will approach various organizations and agencies and ask them to include selected strategies in their workplans. Jerry Masters said he believes the role of the two MRCs in the future will be to make sure the public knows about the stewardship area. "We'll have an advisory role with elected officials on both sides of the water and also a stewardship piece with citizens to talk about correct actions. We might be in front of the Lions Club one day and the public works committee the next day." Rhodes asked to what extent the plan's strategies might be included in the Shoreline Master Plan update. Hook said Karen Stewart, who is drafting the update for Island County, was involved in the strategy workshops. Homola emphasized it is especially valuable to provide input early in the process to the SMP update and the Planning Commission. It is much harder to influence a plan at the very end, after it has already undergone extensive review and is in the form of a recommendation to the board.

Hook said that upon approval of the Port Susan Bay draft plan by the two MRCs it will be submitted to the Northwest Straits Commission as a grant deliverable and forwarded to the elected leaders of the two counties for their consideration and adoption. Hook and Herrmann said several individuals deserve particular thanks for their service on the advisory committee. They include Masters and Hoban of Snohomish MRC, and Hi Bronson, who formerly served on Island County MRC. Hook also thanked Scott Chase, the Island County Shore Stewards Coordinator, and Chris Jerome, a member of Island County MRC who represents the Port of South Whidbey.

Snohomish – Island MRC Joint Resolution

Motion carried. Motion by Toft, second by Haynes, carried unanimously by both MRCs, with Homola abstaining as an ex-officio, non-voting member of Island MRC. The Island and Snohomish MRCs support and recommend county leaders accept the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area draft plan as outlined. Friendly amendment by Masters, accepted by Toft and Haynes, adding that Snohomish MRC joins in this support and recommendation.

Island County MRC Resolution

At the recommendation of Lawrence and Homola, for procedural purposes, the resolution also was presented for a separate vote of Island County MRC only. **Motion carried. Motion by Toft, second by**

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Haynes, carried unanimously with Homola abstaining as an ex-officio, non-voting member. The Island County MRC supports and recommends county leaders accept the Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area draft plan as outlined.

Masters thanked Snohomish MRC member Mary Cunningham, who contributed especially the disciplined perspective of a planner. Bond pointed out this is Cunningham's final meeting and today's occasion is a fitting tribute. Jefferds thanked Haynes for her diligent work on the project. Today is her last meeting as well. Also leaving Island County MRC at year-end is Mitchell. Scott Chase singled out Geerlofs, who was instrumental in the project's launch at the very beginning when he worked for the Northwest Straits Commission. Haynes pointed out that Abby Hook, Megan Massaua, Mary Cunningham and Kathleen Hermann are too modest but deserve great recognition for their efforts.

NEW AND ONGOING BUSINESS

NWSC Port Townsend conference feedback. Jefferds invited members of both MRCs to share impressions and ideas on how to go forward with project-based funding in the future, assuming that capacity funds are drying up. Zackey commented the US Navy has expressed interest in working with counties in using mitigation funds. Jefferds said he was encouraged when a US Geological Survey speaker at the conference mentioned the availability of Cooperative Agreement Program (CAP) funding that might be a good fit for our Sound IQ data system. Rhodes said she was interested in observing the differences among the seven MRCs, particular in their levels of proactivity. Dickson said this was his third NWSC Conference and he found the tone very positive and stimulating. Rhodes said she was impressed to learn that an agency approached Snohomish MRC about a potential partnership and thinks we need to work on ways to elevate awareness of the MRC among other agencies. Homola said the message she keeps hearing is the importance of the education piece, making the public aware of what the MRC does. She mentioned that Oak Harbor City Council meetings are telecast on Channel 10 and many people watch them. An informational presentation to the council would be seen by a large audience on north Whidbey.

MRC membership. Pedersen reported that of the six members whose terms are expiring Dec. 31, four applied for reappointment and were reappointed by the county commissioners. Haynes and Mitchell are leaving us. One new candidate, Maribeth Crandell, applied for a vacant seat and will be considered for appointment at an upcoming session of the county commissioners.

MRC budget. Porter reported that our base funding for the next six months is \$27,500. An additional \$5,500 has become available from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The terms of this grant require us to establish and fund a task to support our participation in the Local Integrating Organization. Porter suggests allocating \$1,000 to this new Task 5. This works out to about four hours a month of Porter's time, spread across six months. For the remaining \$4,500 he suggests spreading the money equally across our other tasks – restoration, data collection and education. Corin pointed out we also have \$10,000 coming to us for phase 2 of Sound IQ. **Motion carried. Motion by Lawrence, second by Urstad, carried unanimously, to accept the revised budget as presented.**

Public records request policy update. Porter noted that as an Island County advisory body the MRC falls under public records retention and request statutes. The county's records manager, Elizabeth Fairfax, recently spoke to us about this. The issue came to light because of ambiguity about the public records status of the Pigeon Guillemot project's Facebook page. He noted the MRC spent \$1,500 this year to pay half the cost of an intern to generate a deliverable, a census report on guillemots. "That was all that we bought," Porter said. To clarify the record, Lawrence read the following statement: **MRC funds were awarded to the Guillemot Research Group specifically for a field study to support the intern who performed the census. To be clear, the Guillemot Research Group, the Guillemot website and the**

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Guillemot Facebook page, maintained by Guillemot volunteers, are not affiliated with Island County MRC or any other Island County government agency.

Island County Coastal Volunteer of the Year. Corin reported the awards committee met today and reviewed the four nominations received for this award. They selected an awardee who will be named and publicly honored Feb. 4 at Sound Waters University.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

Executive director. Porter reported we have a good lineup of interesting speakers starting in January. On Jan. 3, Craig Collar of Snohomish PUD will update us on his organization’s tidal energy pilot project.

Chair. Jefferds noted he had received a request to consider cancelling the MRC’s Dec. 20 business meeting because it is so close to the holidays. By consensus, the group favored cancelling the meeting. Pedersen reminded members the bylaws require us to hold elections at the first meeting in January.

COMMUNITY COMMENT FORUM AND Q&A FROM THE PUBLIC

Zackey reported that, for now, Washington State Parks has withdrawn its support from the proposed Camano Island State Park estuary restoration project. Some opposition had been voiced, suggesting that more communication and outreach is needed before reconsidering the project. He said this means additional SRFB funds are likely to be awarded to the other projects – Dugualla Heights, derelict gear and Swan Lake.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business and no further comments from the audience, Jefferds declared the meeting adjourned at 5:32 pm.

MRC Meetings			
Jan. 3	Tues	3:30 – 5:30	Educational meeting – Craig Collar, Snohomish PUD, tidal energy
Jan. 17	Tues	3:30 – 5:30	Joint meeting with Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)
Feb. 7	Tues	3:30 – 5:30	Educational meeting – Dr. Kathy Van Alstyne, Penn Cove algae