

# Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee Meeting Meeting Summary

**February 8, 2018 3-7PM**

<p><b>MRC Members Present</b>          Franchesca Perez          Bob Hillmann          Mike Ehlebracht          Cathy Stanley          Paul Clampitt          Traci Sanderson          Sarah Brown          Laura Gurley          Deborah Hopkins          Tom Doerge          Craig Wollam</p> <p><b>Absent</b>          Susan Tarpley (excused)</p>	<p><b>Staff, Presenters, and Others</b>          Kathleen Pozarycki, Snohomish County MRC Lead Staff          Elisa Dawson, Snohomish County MRC Planner</p>
<p><b>Summary of Decisions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• January 17, 2017 MRC Meeting Summary was approved</li> <li>• The MRC approved NTA letters of support with minor edits for the SHARP program and Shoreline Effectiveness Monitoring with the NWSF.</li> <li>• Paul will serve at the NWSC representative and Tom will serve as the alternate.</li> <li>• Paul serve as the LIO representative and Traci will serve as the alternate.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Upcoming Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• February 20<sup>th</sup> forage fish survey</li> <li>• February 26<sup>th</sup> Starlight Beach Walk at Edmonds. 7-8:30PM</li> <li>• February 27<sup>th</sup> MRC mussel watch retrieval</li> <li>• February 28<sup>th</sup> Our Coast Movie Night at EvCC 6:30-8:30PM</li> <li>• March 1<sup>st</sup> Our Coast Movie Night at UWB. 7-9PM</li> <li>• March 20<sup>th</sup> MRC Annual Presentation to Council</li> <li>• March 20<sup>th</sup> regional kelp meeting</li> </ul>	

**Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Sarah Brown opened the Marine Resources Committee (MRC) 2018 retreat with a quorum at 3:05pm. Sarah welcomed everyone to the 2018 MRC Retreat and thanked the members for their time. Sarah stated that the goals of the retreat are to complete the 2018 work plan, brainstorm ways to advance the MRC in 2018, build connections and group cohesiveness, revisit the subcommittee lists, update the bylaws, start thinking about the MRC grant for next year, and vote on the Northwest Straits Commission (NWSC) and Snohomish –Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (LIO) Representatives.

### **Team Building Exercise**

Sarah Brown asked everyone from the MRC to go around and introduce themselves, and share their first ocean memory, and their favorite ocean memory. Through this exercise, the members had the opportunity to share where their interest in marine environments started. MRC members also had the opportunity to learn more about each other's passion for the marine environment.

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

Tom Doerge made a motion to approve the January 17, 2018 MRC Meeting Summary. Mike Ehlebracht seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **Revisions to the MRC Bylaws**

Sarah Brown and Kathleen Pozarycki passed out copies of the proposed revisions to the MRC Bylaws. There were several questions regarding the language in the "Conflict of Interest" section. MRC members and staff brainstormed ways to clear up the language. Franchesca Perez offered to send MRC staff example language from other documents to help clear up concerns about the "Conflict of Interest" language. Kathleen will update the Bylaws with new language.

### **MRC Representatives for the NWSC and LIO**

Sarah asked for volunteers to serve as representatives for the LIO and NWSC. Paul offered to continue to serve as the representative for both the NWSC and LIO. Tom volunteered to serve as the alternate for the NWSC. Traci volunteered as an alternate for the LIO. There were no other volunteers. Sarah made a motion that Paul would be the LIO and NWSC representative with Tom as the alternate for the NWSC and Traci as the alternate for the LIO. Sarah asked for all those in favor to say "aye." All were in favor of these appointments and the motion passed.

### **MRC Commitments Letters of Support for the Northwest Straits Foundation (NWSF)**

Kathleen explained that the NWSF is seeking letters of support from the MRC for the two Near Term Actions (NTAs) they plan to submit into the 2018 Action Agenda. The NWSF is seeking support letters for their Shoreline Armor Reduction Program (SHARP), and a Shoreline Effectiveness Monitoring Program. Mike made a motion to approve the letters with an edit to remove Rich Childers as the Executive Director of the NWSC. Traci seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **Brainstorm Strategy to Implement Current Work Plan**

This year the MRC subcommittee leads gave brief presentations of their 2017 successes, challenges and Lessons Learned/Next Steps to help create a more effective 2018 work plan. Sarah facilitated the group through each subcommittee's presentation.

1. MRC Grant
  - a. Admin- Kathleen/Elisa
  - b. Storm Surge Project- Franny
  - c. Ocean Literacy- Sarah
2. Nearshore Restoration Project- Kathleen/Elisa
3. Forage Fish Spawning Surveys- Cathy
4. Meadowdale Design and Cost Benefit- Mike
5. Derelict Gear/Vessels- Paul
6. Recreational Fisheries/Rockfish Crabber Social Marketing Project- Bob
7. Mussel Watch- Mike
8. Oil Spill Preparedness- Susan (provided after the retreat)

9. Kelp Monitoring- Tom/Traci
10. Snohomish Estuary Clean up Group together with Derelict Gear- Paul
11. Stillaguamish River Gauge- Franny
12. Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area- Debbie, SHARP Program Workshop
13. Beach Watchers Update- Craig
14. Port Partnership- Laura
  - a. Film Events
  - b. Derelict Boats
  - c. Nearshore Project

### **MRC Grant Administration- Kathleen/Elisa, All**

- a. Quarterly Grant Reports and Billing Management and Volunteer Hour Tracking
  - a. Volunteer hours due each quarter to Elisa- **All**
    - i. Volunteer hours due 4/4/2018
    - ii. Volunteer hours due 7/5/2018
    - iii. Volunteer hours due 9/25/2018
  - b. Progress Reports
    - i. Quarter 2 progress report due 4/10/2018
    - ii. Quarter 3 progress report due 7/10/2018
    - iii. Quarter 4 progress report due 9/29/2018
- b. Meeting Logistics and Facilitation
- c. Annual Report- Due 4-10-18
  - a. Send draft to MRC for review- **Kathleen**
  - b. Proofreading/Editing- **Sarah, Bob, Mike**
  - c. Develop 3-4 Council recommendations in bullet form
    - i. **Sarah and Kathleen** send out email with recommendations prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> for discussion at meeting
    - ii. Snohomish County Council presentation scheduled March 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m..
- d. Annual Work Plan- Due 3-20-18
  - a. Send draft to MRC for Review
    - i. **Kathleen** send out by 3-9-18
- e. Website Management
  - a. Web master volunteer team- Debbie and **Traci**
    - i. Continue to provide access log in and training- **Kathleen with help from Sasha H.**
  - b. Review project webpages and update as necessary- **All MRC Members**
    - i. Review all website text and links and send suggestions to MRC Staff by 5-21-18
    - ii. Make edits as appropriate **Traci and Debbie**
  - c. Create Project page for MRC Grant **Elisa**

### **Storm Surge Monitoring Project- Kathleen, Elisa, Franny (Leads), Craig**

Highlights: 32 storm surge reports from volunteers during the 2016-2017 storm season. A water level probe was installed at Kayak Point beach to give site-specific information.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: The 2016-2017 winter season did not have many large storm events. There were some challenges with the PVC housing and new housing needs to be installed for the device at Kayak Point Park. We have purchased a second device, which needs to be installed at a new location.

- a. Reinstall housing at Kayak Point Park during low tides in the spring. Due 6/1/18 **Elisa, Franny**
- b. Find a second location and install for the second probe. Due 9/1/18 **Kathleen, Elisa, Franny, Craig**
- c. Reach out to volunteers to thank for their participation Due 5/1/18 **Elisa, Franny**
- d. Work with USGS to update Storm Surge form 9/1/18 **Kathleen, Elisa**

### **Ocean Literacy Project- Debbie, Sarah, Franny, Traci, Kathleen, Elisa, (Leads), all**

Highlights: The team has chosen a great group of movies and scheduled events. Everyone has volunteered to help out with at least two events this year for this event.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: There is still outreach to do for the events. Working on reaching out to more local school districts.

- a. Secure speakers for all events 4/25/18 **Debbie, Sarah, Franny, Traci Kathleen, Elisa**
- b. Continue outreach for events
  - i. Newspaper paid ad 4/25/18 **Kathleen, Elisa**
  - ii. Posters around town 4/25/18 **Debbie, Sarah, Franny, Traci Kathleen, Elisa**
  - iii. Press releases 4/25/18 **Debbie, Sarah, Franny, Traci Kathleen, Elisa**
  - iv. Facebook events 4/25/18 **Kathleen, Elisa**
- c. Reach out to school districts **Debbie, Sarah, Franny, Traci**

### **Nearshore Beach Restoration Project Monitoring and Maintenance- Kathleen, Elisa, Bob, Laura**

Highlights: Congressman Rick Larsen toured the site in spring 2017. It was a great way to showcase our work both locally and for Washington D.C. decision makers.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: Sediment continues to move. The team is currently monitoring the movement of sediment to determine what adaptive management may be needed. Erosion is occurring around the project culvert, possibly due to high stream flows.

- a. Determine Next Steps for future Maintenance Plan **Kathleen, Elisa, Laura, Bob**
  - i. Assess Army Corp Opportunity for beneficial reuse project-**Kathleen & Laura**
- b. ESRP Nearshore Learning Grant with UW Summer Monitoring **Kathleen, Elisa**

- c. Sediment Sample Analysis- Lab work continues, needs data analysis **Kathleen, Elisa**
- d. Forage Fish Monitoring Photo Analysis- Need to organize 2017- 2018 photos into site based time series **Elisa, MRC Summer Intern**

**Forage Fish Spawning Surveys- Kathleen, Elisa, Bob, Cathy, Craig, Susan, Franny, Cathy, Paul, Mike, Susan, Sarah, Traci**

Highlights: Forage Fish eggs were found at many of the nearshore beach nourishment sites. Positive samples have come from 2N, 5N, 6S, 9N, 12S7, 12N7, 13S10, 13S7, 13N10, 13N7, and our Howarth Park restored site.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: We have adjusted our monitoring technique after receiving feedback from WDFW. Instead of just going to the 7' tidal range, we look for appropriate forage fish spawning sediment for forage fish spawning.

- a. Winter Sampling: Determine schedule and sites for 2018-2019 sampling- 6/1/18 **Kathleen, Elisa**
- b. Summer Sampling: Howarth Park & Restored Index Site (Sites 12 & 13) sampled monthly **Elisa**
- c. Set up monthly sampling dates for the index site based on tides lower than 7 ft.
  - i. Volunteer help for collecting samples- sign up for sample dates- **all**
  - ii. Summer Blue vortex- **Elisa/Traci lead at respective offices depending on schedule**
  - iii. Deliver monthly index samples to WDFW- **Elisa**

**Meadowdale Park Design and Cost Benefit Analysis- Mike, Kathleen, Elisa**

Highlights: Earth Economics is working to complete a cost benefit report. The 30% design for Meadowdale was completed. The team continues to meet with BNSF and work together on this project.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: There have been significant edits to the first draft of Earth Economics cost benefit report. A revised report will be available in mid-February. Determining numerical valuations for ecosystem services has been a very subjective process, but the team has worked to strengthen the report for MRC and partner review.

- a. Feedback to the Cost Benefit Analysis Report. 2/28/18 **Mike, Kathleen**
- b. Report to MRC on the Cost Benefit Analysis Report from Earth Economics 5/1/18. **Mike, Kathleen**
- c. Share cost benefit report results with partners and support funding strategy. **Mike, Kathleen**

**Derelict Gear- Vessels and Crab Pot Removal- Paul, Susan, Cathy, Kathleen**

Highlights: The MRC worked with the Northwest Straits Foundation to ensure funds were available for derelict crab pot removal in Port Gardner. Surface Water Management has now created a process to work within State of Washington code to remove derelict vessels. SWM continues to work on the derelict vessel removal project with funds the MRC secured from the NTA process and through the state reimbursement program.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: Snohomish County has gained a better understanding of the state rules and regulations and is establishing a pilot program to remove derelict vessels in the Snohomish Estuary, which will make removal easier in the future.

- a. Work with SWM to post identified derelict vessels for removal 6/1/18 **Paul, Kathleen**
- b. Remove Derelict Vessels 11/1/18 **Paul, Kathleen**
- c. Work with WDFW and Northwest Straits Foundation about their funding to conduct a 2019 derelict crab pot removal 11/1/18. **Kathleen, Susan**

### **Recreational Fisheries Education/Crabber Social Marketing- Bob, Paul, Cathy, Sarah, Susan, Craig, Laura**

Highlights: The MRC reached out to over 2,000 people last year at the Everett 10<sup>th</sup> Street Boat Launch, the Kayak Point Pier and Boat Launch, and at the City of Edmonds Olympic Beach Visitor Station and Fishing Pier.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: The largest rush of people happened from 6AM-12PM. Not many people were reached during the 3<sup>rd</sup> shift, 12PM-3PM. For 2018 the team decided to do 2 shifts (6AM-9AM and 9AM-12PM) but on three different days. The first two days of the crabbing season and the following Saturday at the Everett 10<sup>th</sup> Street Boat Launch and the Kayak Point Pier and Boat Launch.

- a. Coordinate with Beach Watchers for Crabber Opening Day July 1, 2, and 8- **Bob and Paul**
- a. Plan is to hit all the fishing piers and Kayak and Everett Boat Launch
- b. Create Plan of additional events for the Year- **Bob**
- c. Inventory existing supplies, consolidate and work with Beach Watchers to put together packets for 2018 including Bait Clips, Crabber Nautical Charts, and Crab Gauges- **Bob and Paul**
- d. Work with Don Velasquez from WDFW to order more crab gauges **Elisa**
- e. Create plan for Organization and Distribution- **Bob and Paul**
- f. Parking Permit and Special Use Permit from the Port, 20 needed over two days- **Laura**
- g. Continue to take advantage of outreach and education opportunities during the entire summer season available at the Edmonds' Olympic Beach Visitor Center and Fishing Pier

### **Working Dinner Break**

The MRC paused for a working dinner break at 5:30p.m. Kathleen encouraged the MRC members to discuss ideas for next year's MRC grant. During the break, members discussed more opportunities for using the MyCoast application and website, and ideas to make it more effective. The MRC will continue to consider ideas for the next MRC grant opportunity.

### **Mussel Watch- WDFW Caged Study- Mike, Susan (City of Edmonds), Laura (Port of Everett), Traci, Tom, Craig, Debbie, Elisa**

Highlights: The MRC sponsored a Mussel Watch cage at City of Edmonds Brackett's Landing. MRC members volunteered to deploy cages at Meadowdale and the Port of Everett that were sponsored by WDFW. All three cages were installed during low tides in December 2017.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: This year deployment was delayed because of a harmful algal bloom at Penn Cove.

- a. MRC sponsor: Edmonds at Brackett's landing – **Susan is lead**
- b. MRC volunteer for install and retrieval at Meadowdale at Port of Everett. **Mike (Meadowdale), Laura (Port of Everett), Traci, Tom, Craig, Debbie, Elisa**
- c. Cage Retrieval – February 2018 **Mike, Susan (City of Edmonds), Laura (Port of Everett), Traci, Tom, Craig, Debbie, Elisa**

### **Oil Spill Preparedness- Susan, Franny, Mike, Paul, Debbie, Craig**

Highlights: Successfully encouraged Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) to facilitate a multi-jurisdiction, virtual tabletop exercise designed around the realistic scenario of a Bakken oil train derailment. This discussion-based exercise, sponsored by FEMA's Emergency Management Institute, helped participants think about creating a more coordinated response, in the event of an oil spill. Participated in the National Academy of Sciences' webcast "[Preparing for a Rapid Response to Major Marine Oil Spills: A Workshop on Research Needs to Protect the Health and Well-being of Communities](#)". Two MRC members attended WA Dept of Ecology's Oiled Wildlife Hazwoper Training to assist in a large-scale wildlife response, if needed. The MRC reviewed and offered substantive comments on the state's Draft Stillaguamish Geographic Response Plan that focuses on regional oil spill response strategies.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: Continue important partnership with Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management

- a. Schedule Subcommittee meetings as needed
- b. Continue to Network moving forward. Emphasize the paramount need for pro-active spill preparedness.
- c. Promote the value of multi-organization/multi-jurisdictional tabletop exercises and hands-on drills involving realistic scenarios, particularly oil train derailments.
- d. Continue to work collaboratively with DEM and other organizations
- e. Participate on the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) - Susan
- f. Update Oil spill section on the MRC website

### **Kelp Monitoring- Tom, Traci, Kathleen, Elisa**

Highlights: Sampling was conducted in August of 2017 instead of once a month over the summer. Sampling went very well. SWM GIS staff created maps to compare the last three years of sampling. Bull kelp beds appear to be smaller in size, and the team is not sure of the cause of the decline. It may be due to sampling variables such as tide height and variations in the growing season. The kelp beds appear to be located in the same relative place over the three years of sampling.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: We need to continue to increase our understanding of what conditions kelp beds should be in to choose survey dates. Each year the growing season for kelp changes and we should try to survey when kelp is at its largest proliferation.

- a. Track Protocol Changes/NWSC Effort- **Tom**

- b. Send photos to Lucas Hart/NWSC 5/7/18- **Elisa**
- c. Set Dates for 2018 monitoring and create a team 5/14/18 **Tom, Traci, Kathleen, Elisa**
  - i. Consider doing only one month of sampling in 2018 as we did in 2017
- d. Get safety training for new volunteers and ensure SWM supervisors are aware of plan 6/1/18 **Tom, Traci, Kathleen, Elisa**
- e. Ensure each volunteer signs insurance liability waivers 7/1/18 **Tom, Traci, Kathleen, Elisa**
- f. Find sea kayaks for monitoring- Check with Lincoln or Doug Dailer (Ranger at Meadowdale park) 7/1/18 **Tom, Traci, Kathleen, Elisa**
- g. File float plan for each event 7/1/18 **Tom, Traci, Kathleen, Elisa**

### **Port Susan Marine Stewardship Area- Kathleen, Elisa, Traci, Debbie**

Highlights: Staff attended the Warm Beach Summerfest in 2017 to conduct outreach. The MRC has partnered with the Northwest Straits Foundation Shoreline Armor Reduction Program (SHARP) and held a workshop for shoreline landowners in October 2017.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: It was useful to attend the Warm Beach Summerfest to talk with landowners in a place/time in which they are already gathering. We can continue to do more work with tribal partners and have begun conversations with the Tulalip Tribes.

- a. SHARP project NTA partnership with the Foundation
  - i. Site visits in partnership with the Foundation
  - ii. Education and Outreach- find willing landowners to consider bulkhead removal
  - iii. Summer Homeowner Association Presentations

### **Stillaguamish River Gauge- Kathleen, Franny**

Highlights: A gauge was installed in partnership with Snohomish County, USGS, and the Stillaguamish Tribe on the Stillaguamish River just past Marine View Drive. The main purpose of the gauge is to monitor flooding.

Lessons Learned/Next Steps: The gauge monitors water height; we would like add salinity and turbidity to parameters with additional funding.

- a. Check with USGS, Snohomish County, and Stillaguamish Tribe to see if we can monitor for salinity or turbidity. **Franny**

### **Retreat Wrap Up**

Sarah thanked the MRC for their time at the retreat. Their work will help us complete the 2018 work plan.

### **Announcements**

There are many MRC events coming up!

- February 20th forage fish survey
- February 26th Starlight Beach Walk at Edmonds. 7-8:30PM
- February 27th MRC mussel watch retrieval
- February 28th Our Coast Movie Night at EvCC 6:30-8:30PM
- March 1st Our Coast Movie Night at UWB. 7-9PM



- March 20th MRC Annual Presentation to Council
- March 20th regional kelp meeting

**Running List of MRC Actions:**

- Franchesca will send Kathleen information on conflict of interest language to continue to brainstorm language for bylaws.
- Kathleen will send MRC updated bylaws with new conflict of interest language.
- MRC staff and executive committee will update the annual report for the March 20 presentation to council.

**The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.**