

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

January 23, 2023
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83145251701?pwd=MTM1MmxrdUtHVWtyL1RNbk9MSXBWdz09>

Meeting ID: 831 4525 1701

Passcode: 805213

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval November minutes.

5:45 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

6:00 Updates

- Retreat – February 23rd @ Dungeness River Nature Center 10 am-3pm
- Climate Change and Shellfish Impacts workshop- attended by Chris Burns and Rebecca Mahan
- One-page project summaries – Tim Cochnauer

6:30 Project Updates

Olympia oysters: Contract signed by BOCC.

Forage Fish: Survey updates. Jan.24th MRCs Forage Fish check-in meeting Tim giving Clallam update.

Education/Outreach: Coaster committee and Shore Friendly committee established. Next steps?

Project updates will be discussed as needed.

6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

2023 Meetings

January 23
February 27
March 20

April 17
May 15
June 26

July 17
August 21
September 18

October 16
November 20
December 18



January 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, January 23, 2023

Time: 5:30-7:00 PM

Location: Zoom hybrid meeting

Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Ioana Bociu (Academic Community Alternate), Ed Bowlby (Academic Community Representative), Mary Sue Brancato (At Large Alternate), Chris Burns (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Alternate), Alan Clark (Community at Large Representative; Vice Chair; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Tim Cochnauer (Community At Large; Chair), Robert Knapp (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe), Lyn Muench (District 2), Arnold Schouten (Development Community), Ann Soule (District 2 Alternate), Justin Stapleton (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe), Ann Stafford (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism), Nancy Stephanz (Conservation and Environment Representative Alternate), Lance Vail (District 1 Alternate), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment Representative), Jeffrey Ward (District 1)

Others present: Rebekah Brooks (Rebekah Brooks Contracting), Cathy Lear (Clallam County), Rebecca Mahan (Clallam County [CC] Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator), Alisa Taylor (CC MRC Intern)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Chair Tim Cochnauer called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. Nancy Stephanz made an addition to the agenda under Additional Updates.

Public Comment / Approval of November Minutes

There were no public comments. *Ed Bowlby moved to approve the November CC MRC minutes as written; Ann Soule seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.*

NWSC Update

Alan Clark gave an update on the last NWSC Meeting, which was held on 12/9/22. Items of focus included the approval of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Vision and Goal Statement, which will be available on the website: [Northwest Straits Commission | Marine Conservation in Washington \(nwstraits.org\)](https://nwstraits.org). The NWSC staff will be developing action items for the goals; more information will follow in the coming months. Tessa Francis with the Puget Sound Institute presented a study that assessed the impact of shoreline armoring on Chinook and Chum salmon, herring, and surf smelt. The study compared restored sites with sites that had armoring present and sites that had never had armoring to assess whether improvement in beach habitat led to better habitat in the subtidal zone. The correlation between improved beach habitat and better subtidal habitat was weak. For salmon, the geographic proximity to stream habitat and the presence of eel grass were the most significant factors. At present, there is not clear evidence that restoration promotes fish use of subtidal habitats, which suggests that protection of intact habitat is vital, particularly for herring and Chum salmon, who require eel grass habitat. Eel grass restoration may be helpful. Tessa is also available to make presentations to

the MRCs. Tim Cochnauer suggested it would be a good presentation for the Studium Generale program at Peninsula College. The Northwest Straits Foundation is starting a Salish Sea Conservation Corps Program; Ed Bowlby has volunteered as a potential mentor. The mentorships are intended to create internships for early career professionals. Interested volunteers can contact Don Unger or Brooke Freisen at the Northwest Straits Foundation, or be in touch with Alan Clark for more information. The next NWSC meeting is scheduled for February in Snohomish County.

CC MRC Retreat

Rebecca Mahan reserved the Dungeness River Center for 2/23/2023 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. There will be a working lunch. The NWSC has more congressionally directed spending funds available, at about \$100,000 per year. An anticipated project form for ongoing and new projects is due by 3/1/2023, so Rebecca wants to focus on projects at the retreat. Lyn Muench suggested that the CC MRC consider what they are trying to accomplish overall, and figure out some goals that would help direct future projects. Discussion followed on members who would not be able to attend the retreat; issues brought forward from the Board of County Commissioners; and several project ideas, including climate resilience, ocean acidification, and the possibility of building on a past study conducted in the Port Angeles harbor. *Tim Cochnauer asked the group to write up their project ideas with references to other studies and projects so the group could review them at the retreat. *Carrol Hull volunteered to help coordinate the retreat, bringing her teaching and facilitation experience to the group. Ann Soule expected some homework for the CC MRC that the retreat subcommittee would be putting together.

Climate Change and Shellfish Impacts Workshop

Chris Burns and Rebecca Mahan attended a workshop sponsored by the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) on the heat dome from last summer. The workshop went over mortality from the event and how to plan for future impacts. Some areas were more heavily impacted depending on multiple variables, including beach aspect and the timing of low tides. They also addressed standardizing surveys for the purposes of data sharing. The workshop was well represented by tribes and government entities.

One-page Project Summaries

Tim Cochnauer suggested that the CC MRC write up one-page summaries of their funded projects so that each year projects can be tracked and the Committee and Board of County Commissioners can be kept up to date on how projects progress. *Ed Bowlby said he would write a summary up for the Pigeon Guillemot Survey project, and asked about a standard format. *Tim will write up a summary for the Forage Fish project that can be used as a template.

Project Updates

Olympia Oysters

Rebecca Mahan reported that the Board of County Commissioners signed the contract for the congressionally directed spending funds last week. The CC MRC is partnering with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe to add some substrate to Sequim Bay. The Tribe is taking the lead on getting the shell and the permits. Chris Burns said that shell was getting difficult to acquire. The funding can be extended if necessary. Help will be needed loading and unloading the shell once it is obtained.

Forage Fish

Tim Cochnauer said that monthly sampling continues, but they have not seen any eggs due to the winter season. The low tides are occurring at night, and high tides make sampling difficult. WDFW and the NWSC are putting on a forage fish presentation on 1/17/23 to discuss the MRC programs and what is

happening at the WDFW level. The CC MRC will be presenting their findings. *Rebecca Mahan will send a link to the presentation if anyone is interested.

Education/Outreach

Ann Soule gave an update. The coaster project had been put on hold while funding was being determined. Now that there are funds available, the CC MRC needs to decide how they would like to spend them. Ann is willing to update the art with new species if that is a project that the MRC would like to fund. Lyn Muench announced that there will be a Dungeness River Festival this year, and suggested enhancing the CC MRC booth. Rebecca Mahan added that there will be a Shore Friendly planning meeting with the Northwest Straits Foundation and the Jefferson MRC on 1/20/23; she distributed the information to everyone who expressed interest, but can resend it if anyone else would like to participate. The Foundation is looking to set up a Shore Friendly workshop in March.

Kelp Project

Alan Clark said that while the kayak surveys were shut down for the winter, there was a lot of activity around kelp from the Puget Sound Restoration Fund, NWSC planning, measurement parameters, and findings regarding the importance of kelp in the ecosystem and economy. Discussion followed on kelp bed loss, possible causes, trends, and research. Alan shared a link to the Washington Floating Kelp Indicator: [Kelp Canopy Vital Sign for Puget Sound \(arccgis.com\)](https://arccgis.com).

Pigeon Guillemot Surveys

Ed Bowlby stated that the Pigeon Guillemot network personnel from the University of Washington would be scheduling site visits to Jefferson and Clallam survey sites this spring. Arnold Schouten has asked Ed to give a presentation to the local chapter of Surfrider prior to the start up of the next monitoring season.

Additional Updates

Nancy Stephanz announced a live training session from the University of Washington for the Sound Toxin Monitoring program. It is a sampling program to document phytoplankton and zooplankton and can be done right off the Port Angeles pier. The training is scheduled for 2/21/23 and 2/22/23. Feiro Marine Life Center is coordinating volunteers; *Nancy will represent the CC MRC.

Good of the Order

Lyn Muench said that she saw two adds from the Jefferson MRC at the Rose Theater in Port Townsend and suggested that the CC MRC could consider something similar at the Deer Park Theater.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Chair Tim Cochnauer adjourned the meeting at 6:47 PM.

Action Items:

**Tim Cochnauer asked the group to write up their project ideas with references to other studies and projects so the group could review them at the CC MRC retreat.*

**Carrol Hull volunteered to help coordinate the retreat, bringing her teaching and facilitation experience to the group.*

**Ed Bowlby said he would write a summary up for the Pigeon Guillemot Survey project.*

- *Tim will write up a summary for the Forage Fish project that can be used as a template.*
- *Rebecca Mahan will send a link to the forage fish presentation if anyone is interested.*
- *Nancy will represent the CC MRC for the Sound Toxin Monitoring program.*

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

February 27, 2023
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86570354388>

Meeting ID: 865 7035 4388

Passcode: 12345

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval January minutes.

5:45 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

5:50 February Retreat Updates

6:50 Project Updates

Olympia oysters: CDS shell placement - working on permits JST and CC

Forage Fish: Survey updates.

Other project updates:

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6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

2023 Meetings

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April 17

July 17

October 16

February 27

May 15

August 21

November 20

March 20

June 26

September 18

December 18



February 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, February 27, 2023

Time: 5:30-7:00 PM

Location: Zoom hybrid meeting

Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Helle Andersen (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism Alternate), Ed Bowlby (Academic Community Representative), Mary Sue Brancato (At Large Alternate), Alan Clark (Community at Large Representative; Vice Chair; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Tim Cochnauer (Community At Large; Chair), Mike Doherty (District 3), Ann Soule (District 2 Alternate), Justin Stapleton (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe), Nancy Stephanz (Conservation and Environment Representative Alternate), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment Representative), Jeffrey Ward (District 1)

Others present: Rebekah Brooks (Rebekah Brooks Contracting), Cathy Lear (Clallam County), Rebecca Mahan (Clallam County [CC] Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator), Alisa Taylor (CC MRC Intern)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Chair Tim Cochnauer called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. Rebecca Mahan added an update on Olympia oysters.

Public Comment / Approval of November Minutes

There were no public comments. *Ann Soule moved to approve the January CC MRC minutes as written; Jeff Ward seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.*

NWSC Update

Alan Clark gave an update on the last NWSC Meeting. There was a presentation from the Snohomish and Island MRCs on the Port Susan Bay marine stewardship area. The two MRCs are working together on the project, with assistance from the University of Washington's Evans School of Public Policy and Governance. Alan suggested that the CC MRC might consider a similar collaboration down the line. A NWSC and MRC Retreat is scheduled for 3/30/23-3/31/23 in La Conner. The reauthorization is moving ahead in the legislature. The Commission meetings are returning to the old schedule of alternating between remote and in-person; this meeting had no remote options. More information can be found on the NWSC website: [Northwest Straits Commission | Marine Conservation in Washington \(nwstraits.org\)](https://nwstraits.org).

CC MRC February Retreat Updates

Rebecca Mahan led discussion on the CC MRC February 23 Retreat that took place at the Dungeness River Center. Notes from Rebekah Brooks were distributed. Projects were put forward, ranked, and volunteered for as follows:

- 1: Educational Presentation: 10 votes, 3 volunteers
- 2: Habitat Restoration and Maintenance: 7 votes, 4 volunteers

- 3: More Admin Support: 7 votes, 3 volunteers
- 4: Pinto Abalone: 6 votes, no volunteers (more info needed)
- 5: Watershed Restoration/Maintenance Needs: 6 votes, 2 volunteers
- 6: Creative Outreach: 5 votes, 1 volunteer
- 7: Gap Analysis/Research review: 5 votes, 1 volunteer
- 8: Sound IQ/Database Liaison: 4 votes, no volunteers (paid position?)
- 9: Beach Cleanup (especially plastics): 3 votes, no volunteers
- 10: Shoreline Property Support: 2 votes, no volunteers
- 11: Oiled Wildlife Rescue: 2 votes, 1 volunteer
- 12: Seabird Surveys (from boat): 2 votes, no volunteers
- 13: WDNR Project ID/Seagrass Surveys/Restoration: 2 votes, no volunteers
- 14: WRAP Act Support: 2 votes, no volunteers
- 15: Fellowship for Outreach/education: 2 votes, 2 volunteers
- 16: "State of the Watersheds" Implementation: 2 votes, no volunteers
- 17: Education/Outreach for Environmental Stewardship: 2 votes, no volunteers

Ann Soule noted that the projects listed were only the new projects, and did not include current CC MRC projects. Rebecca suggested that existing partnerships with Shore Friendly and International Bird Rescue would make #10: Shoreline Property Support and #11: Oiled Wildlife Rescue easy to implement. Helle Andersen added that #2: Habitat Restoration and Maintenance and #5: Watershed Restoration/Maintenance Needs could be combined into a single project. Jeff Ward said that some of the 17 listed projects could be combined with existing projects, which could provide enough critical mass for the project champions. Ed Bowlby requested additional Retreat notes and documents to be sent to all MRC members, beyond those who were present at the event. Nancy Stephanz announced that the Sound Toxin Training would be taking place either on 3/22/23 or 3/29/23; *she will send the confirmed date to Rebecca for distribution. Alan Clark reported that the NWSC has discussed Pinto Abalone surveys and that the Skagit MRC has materials and reports from their surveys going back several years; the Skagit experience and resources could be helpful. Mary Sue Brancato suggested combining projects #2: Habitat Restoration and Maintenance, #5: Watershed Restoration/Maintenance Needs, and #16: "State of the Watersheds" Implementation, and relating them to #10: Shoreline Property Support and #13: WDNR Act Support. Alan brought up the previously discussed project ideas of updating the CC MRC booth and handout materials, and putting together some "canned" presentations that could be ready to go for outreach opportunities. Further discussion followed on whether to wait on projects without volunteers, involvement with the Elwha Beach project, and education and social media outreach. *Nancy Stephanz volunteered to be the champion for the Sound Toxin weekly data collection in partnership with Feiro. *Helle Andersen volunteered to lead the Valley Creek project. Rebecca reminded the group that she needed to submit a list of anticipated projects to the NWSC by 3/1/23, and full proposals in May. She added to the project list during the discussion; the list included:

- Ongoing Projects: Forage Fish surveys, Kelp surveys, PG colony surveys, Elwha Beach stewardship (Sanikan and dog waste bags), Olympia Oyster surveys with JST, Education and Outreach, Coasters, Interns, BoCC updates
- New Projects in Development: Olympia Oyster – adding seed, Fellowship/more coasters, Shore Friendly collaboration, International Bird Rescue collaborations with workshops/Hazwoper training

- Not Yet Developed Projects: Pinto Abalone, Update booth/table for festivals/events, Green crab, "Canned Presentations" on MRC projects, Storm surge/king tides, Derelict gear in PA/Elwha, Valley Creek estuary – plantings/remove riprap, Second retreat – hire a facilitator, Collaborate with COASST, Social media/website, Hire county staff

Ann Soule clarified that the project titles did not convey all that was discussed during the retreat. *Alissa Taylor will distribute photos of the project notes that were posted on the wall. Bob Vreeland expressed interest in the Storm surge/king tide monitoring.

Project Updates

Olympia Oysters

Rebecca Mahan reported that she is working with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and the County to get the permits for the shell placement. She is also working with them on the Memorandum of Understanding to ensure that there is no conflict of interest since Chris Burns is the project lead.

Forage Fish

Tim Cochnauer said that they completed the sampling this month; they haven't seen any eggs in several months. He will be presenting an overview of the project at the March CC MRC meeting.

Other Project Updates

Bob Vreeland said the biotoxin surveys have not yet resumed for the season. Ed Bowlby reported that he will be participating in the regional meeting for the South Salish Sea pigeon guillemot surveys. They are on track to start surveys again at the beginning of June.

Good of the Order

Mike Doherty announced that the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) is wrapping up their presentations on the new management plan with a final presentation tonight; comments will be accepted until 4/3/23. Mike hoped that the CC MRC could send in a letter of support; *he will draft a letter for review at the March CC MRC meeting. He also announced a new administrative law involving a rescue tug in the San Juan islands; comments to the Department of Ecology will be accepted until 3/5/23. There are also two recycling bills currently in the legislature: SB 5154 and HB 1131. Rebecca Mahan reminded the group that the CC MRC-sponsored Shore Friendly workshop is scheduled for 3/11/23 at the Dungeness River Center; sign up is necessary because space is limited. *She will send out another reminder.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Chair Tim Cochnauer adjourned the meeting at 7:08 PM.

Action Items:

**Nancy Stephanz will send the confirmed date to Rebecca Mahan for the Sound Toxin Training, which will be held on 3/22/23 or 3/29/23.*

**Nancy Stephanz volunteered to be the champion for the Sound Toxin weekly data collection in partnership with Feiro.*

**Helle Andersen volunteered to lead the Valley Creek project.*

**Alissa Taylor will distribute photos of the project notes that were posted on the wall at the CC MRC Retreat.*

**Mike Doherty will draft a letter of support for the OCNMS management plan, to be reviewed at the March CC MRC meeting.*

**Rebecca Mahan will send out another reminder for the Shore Friendly workshop.*

CLALLAM MRC RETREAT SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

February 23, 2023
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting



Teams Meeting Link:

Meeting ID: **831 4525 1701**

Passcode: **805213**

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

10:00 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

10:05 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

10:20 Public Comment

10:25 Northwest Strait 101 – Alan Clark

10:25 Strategic Plan Discussion

11:00 Clallam MRC Goals

12:00 Lunch

12:30 Current Projects/

- Forage fish
- Pigeon Guillemot
- Kelp surveys
- Olympia Oyster
- Biotoxins
- Education/outreach
 - Interns
 - Coasters
 -

1:30 Future Project ideas 23-25/ Workplan/ Project leads

- Sound Toxins
- Olympia oyster cont.
- Pinto Abalone
- European Green Crab
- Oiled bird/otter training-International Bird Rescue
-

2:00 Funding

- Current
- Future

2023 Meetings

January 23	April 17	July 17	October 16
February 27	May 15	August 21	November 20
March 20	June 26	September 18	December 18

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

March 20, 2023
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86570354388>

Meeting ID: 865 7035 4388

Passcode: 12345

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

- Motion to order more coasters
- Motion to order new GPS for kelp project
- Motion to order event tabling supplies (rack card holders)

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval February minutes.

5:45 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

5:50 NWSC RFP for 2023-2025 – Discuss new and current projects.

Current Projects:

- Forage Fish
- Pigeon Guillemot
- Olympia Oysters Restoration
 - CDS shell placement project
- Kelp monitoring
- Education/Outreach
- Elwha Beach Stewardship
- Biotoxins

New Project ideas:

- Pinto Abalone – Pilot survey study
- Sound Toxin collaborating with Feiro
- Continuing shell placement project and add seeded clutch
- Valley Creek pocket beach/estuary noxious weed control/ native planting

6:50 Project Updates

Updates as necessary

6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

2023 Meetings

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March 2023 Meeting Draft Minutes

Date: Monday, March 20, 2023

Time: 5:30-7:00 PM

Location: Zoom hybrid meeting

Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Helle Andersen (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism Alternate), Ed Bowlby (Academic Community Representative), Mary Sue Brancato (At Large Alternate), Chris Burns (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Alternate), Alan Clark (Community at Large Representative; Vice Chair; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Tim Cochnauer (Community At Large; Chair), Mike Doherty (District 3), Robert Knapp (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe), Lyn Muench (District 2), Arnold Schouten (Development Community), Ann Soule (District 2 Alternate), Ann Stafford (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism), Justin Stapleton (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe), Nancy Stephanz (Conservation and Environment Representative Alternate), LaTricia Suggs (Port Angeles City Council), Lance Vail (District 2 Alternate), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment Representative), Jeffrey Ward (District 1)

Others present: Rebekah Brooks (Rebekah Brooks Contracting), Cathy Lear (Clallam County), Rebecca Mahan (Clallam County [CC] Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator), Alisa Taylor (CC MRC Intern)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Chair Tim Cochnauer called the meeting to order at 5:57 PM, delayed due to technical difficulties. Mike Doherty suggested an amendment to the agenda to include a draft letter of support for the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) management plan. **Mike Doherty moved to add the letter of support for OCNMS to the agenda; Ann Soule seconded. The motion passed unanimously.** Lyn Muench added a comment to the Good of the Order section at the end of the meeting.

Public Comment / Approval of February Minutes

There were no public comments. **Bob Vreeland moved to approve the February CC MRC minutes as written; LaTricia Suggs seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.**

Three Motions for Orders

Tim Cochnauer led discussion on the order for new coasters. **Bob Vreeland moved to approve the order for 500 coasters of each design, coming to \$750 for 1500 coasters. Mike Doherty seconded. The motion carried with one opposition.** The group discussed ordering a new tool that can take waypoints and film underwater footage to support the kelp project. Alan Clark suggested backing up the CC MRC GPS and purchasing a new GoPro; *he will research costs and come back to Rebecca Mahan with the information to present at the April CC MRC Meeting. The third order was for miscellaneous tabling supplies like rack holders for events. **Mike Doherty moved to cap a miscellaneous supply order at \$250; if that is not enough, Rebecca Mahan will come back to the Committee with an additional request. Alan Clark seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

NWSC Update

Alan Clark gave an update on NWSC news. There had not been a NWSC meeting since the last CC MRC meeting, but there were other updates. The Commission has returned to in-person meetings on alternating months. The 2023 NWSC Conference will be held on 11/3/2023-11/4/2023 in Port Townsend; Alan urged the CC MRC members to attend. More information will be forthcoming. On 3/30/2023-3/31/2023, the Commission and the Northwest Straits Foundation will meet in La Conner to go over next steps and future plans for working together. There will be a kelp season kickoff on 4/20/23. Senator Murray will be visiting Jefferson and Clallam Counties, which will be a good opportunity to show her some MRC projects, perhaps in partnership with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe. Tim Cochnauer suggested renting a house at Fort Worden for the NWSC Conference, which can house about 15 people. Alternatively, the lighthouse can house about 7 people. The group discussed possible projects to present to Senator Murray, such as forage fish sampling, the Olympia oyster project, or the pigeon guillemot surveys. Timing of her visit is undetermined, so a tour might be a last-minute thing, and project access may depend on the tides. *Bob Vreeland said he could prepare slides about the biotoxin sampling. More information can be found on the NWSC website: [Northwest Straits Commission | Marine Conservation in Washington \(nwstraits.org\)](https://www.nwstraits.org).

NWSC Request for Proposals for 2023-2025

Tim Cochnauer led discussion on current projects, and the budget timelines. The State budget starts on 7/1/23; the Ecology budget starts on 10/1/23; and the congressionally directed spending (CDS) funds start on 1/1/24. The proposals are due to the NWSC by 5/25/23. Current projects can use updated versions of their existing documentation. *Rebecca Mahan will send out the paperwork for the last cycle of current projects so they can be edited for the next round. Ed Bowlby requested a pigeon guillemot budget of \$500, which the Committee agreed to. Current projects include forage fish surveys, pigeon guillemot surveys, Olympia oyster restoration (with CDS shell placement), kelp monitoring, education and outreach, Elwha beach stewardship, and biotoxin sampling. Bob Vreeland announced that biotoxin surveys will start at Pillar Point on 4/10/23 and will go until at least 9/27/23, possibly longer depending on tides and access. Ann Soule pointed out that the education and outreach topic covers a wide range, and she was interested in defining it well. The group had proposed hiring an education programs coordinator; Ann also suggested hiring a dedicated intern for this task. Tim added that the CDS budget would be expanded to fill a position for an administrative assistant so that Rebecca can focus on projects. Cathy Lear noted that hiring contractors was also a possibility for specific projects. *Ann Soule offered to help with the writing of the RFPs. Lyn Muench pointed out that there will be a Dungeness River Festival in September this year, which would be a good time to have CC MRC displays and outreach assistance in place.

The group transitioned to a conversation on new project ideas. Rebecca said that there was supposed to be a guest presentation from the Puget Sound Restoration Fund on pinto abalone at this meeting, but the diver was unable to make it. He will be rescheduling a time to meet with the CC MRC. A study would initially be a survey of pinto abalone presence. Alan Clark and Jeff Ward were interested in combining a survey with the kelp surveys at Freshwater Bay, with possible collaborations with other MRCs and dive teams. *Alan, Jeff, and Chris Burns volunteered to participate in a survey, with Alan and Jeff as potential project co-leads, pending more information from Puget Sound Restoration Fund. Nancy Stephanz gave an update on the Sound Toxin surveys and training, in partnership with Feiro. A training workshop is scheduled for this Wednesday, 4/22/23, from 10AM to 2PM at the Feiro Marine Life Center. *Nancy

Stephanz and Mary Sue Brancato will be participating. Chris Burns said that he is working on acquiring shell for the continuing shell placement project. It is very difficult to find right now; Chris has found 113 bags so far but is looking from Shelton to Willapa Bay and hoped to locate more. The plan is to place the shell in the best habitat to boost natural population growth. Rebecca added that the cost has also increased from \$4 to \$7 a bag. Helle Andersen went over ideas for noxious weed control and native planting at the two pocket beaches at the Valley Creek estuary. She plans on teaming up with the City of Port Angeles and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. The group discussed the possibility of collaborating with the Noxious Weed Board or Washington Conservation Corps or turning it into an outreach project with community partners. Bob Vreeland sent out an email about his interest in the king tides and storm surges; he researched possible sites and how to predict king tides. He is going to talk to Ian Miller for more information. The months between October and December have the most potential for king tides. Discussion on possible locations followed.

OCNMS Letter of Support

Mike Doherty drafted a letter of support for the OCNMS draft management plan, but there is room for additional input. Rebecca Mahan sent the draft out to the CC MRC this afternoon. *She will resend it in the morning with a request for comments within 2 days. Mike suggested sending it out to other MRCs as well. Rebecca was authorized to submit the letter to OCNMS after any CC MRC comments are received.

Project Updates

Rebecca Mahan gave a recap of the Shoreline Friendly Workshop that the CC MRC partnered with. It was well attended. Shoreline Friendly collaborates with Nickel Brothers to move and recycle old houses; they explained that the carbon footprint of buying and moving an old house is less than building a new house. The afternoon portion of the workshop visited two homes that had been moved locally. There was a presentation on shoreline erosion, and interest from landowners in Sekiu. Rebecca also attended the oiled wildlife rescue training with Ed Bowlby and Jeff Ward last week, put on by the International Bird Rescue.

Good of the Order

Ed Bowlby brought up a letter of support for Feiro Marine Life Center's new marine discovery center; there was consensus for Rebecca Mahan to sign the letter on behalf of the CC MRC. Rebecca announced that she would be on vacation from 3/29/23 to 4/6/23. She also requested CC MRC members to fill in their volunteer time logs; they are due 4/15/23. Lyn Muench mentioned that the County Commissioners work session this morning brought up a new federal economic development initiative called the Innovation Cluster Accelerator Program. The first item discussed was the blue carbon economy, specifically that eelgrass, kelp and shellfish are carbon sinks and secondary products. The work sessions do not usually focus on the marine environment, so this initiative is good to be aware of. Rebecca added that Lucas Hart will be on the agenda for the 3/27/23 Board of County Commissioners meeting about NWSC and the MRCs. Tim Cochnauer reminded the group that volunteer hours count as match for project funding, so it is important to report them.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Chair Tim Cochnauer adjourned the meeting at 7:34 PM.

Action Items:

**Alan Clark will research GoPro costs and come back to Rebecca Mahan with the information to present at the April CC MRC Meeting.*

**Bob Vreeland said he could prepare slides about the biotoxin sampling.*

**Rebecca Mahan will send out the paperwork for the last cycle of current projects so they can be edited for the next round.*

**Ann Soule offered to help with the writing of the RFPs.*

**Alan Clark, Jeff Ward, and Chris Burns volunteered to participate in a pinto abalone survey, with Alan and Jeff as potential project co-leads.*

**Nancy Stephanz and Mary Sue Brancato will be participating in the Sound Toxin training.*

**Rebecca Mahan will resend the letter of support for the OCNMS management plan in the morning with a request for comments within 2 days.*

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

April 17, 2023

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval March minutes.

5:45 Presentation – Melissa Williams, Executive Director of the Feiro Marine Life Center will give a presentation on the upcoming Marine Discovery Center.

6:00 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

6:10 NWSC RFP for 2023-2025 – Continue discussion with any new information.

Current Projects:

- Forage Fish
- Pigeon Guillemot
- Olympia Oysters Restoration
 - CDS shell placement project
- Kelp monitoring
- Education/Outreach
- Elwha Beach Stewardship
- Biotoxins

New Project ideas:

- Pinto Abalone – Pilot survey study
- Sound Toxin collaborating with Feiro
- Continuing shell placement project and add seeded clutch.
- Valley Creek pocket beach/estuary noxious weed control/ native planting

6:50 Project Updates

Tim Cochnauer - Forage Fish presentation

- Other updates as necessary

6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

2023 Meetings

January 23

April 17

July 17

October 16

February 27

May 15

August 21

November 20

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June 26

September 18

December 18

Clallam County DCD is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: MRC

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485?pwd=N3dMbHRyL3l5TnpKNGtVSGtWYk5VQT09>

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One tap mobile

+12532158782,,85314804485#,,,,*12345# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

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2023 Meetings

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April 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, April 17, 2023

Time: 5:30-7:00 PM

Location: Zoom hybrid meeting

Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Helle Andersen (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism Alternate), Ed Bowlby (Academic Community Representative), Mary Sue Brancato (At Large Alternate), Chris Burns (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Alternate), Alan Clark (Community at Large Representative; Vice Chair; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Tim Cochnauer (Community At Large; Chair), Mike Doherty (District 3), Robert Knapp (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe), Allyce Miller (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Alternate), Lyn Muench (District 2), Arnold Schouten (Development Community), Ann Stafford (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism), Nancy Stephanz (Conservation and Environment Representative Alternate), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment Representative)

Others present: Rebekah Brooks (Rebekah Brooks Contracting), Tamara Galvan (Feiro Marine Life Center), Sasha Horst (NWSC), Rebecca Mahan (Clallam County [CC] Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator) Debbie Schouten (Citizen), Alisa Taylor (CC MRC Intern), Melissa Williams (Feiro Marine Life Center)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Chair Tim Cochnauer called the meeting to order. *The agenda was accepted as written.*

Public Comment / Approval of March Minutes

Mike Doherty added a clarification to the March CC MRC minutes under the section Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) Letter of Support. He asked that the minutes reflect that Rebecca Mahan has the right to make any submitted changes to the letter and to send it in when all comments have been received. *Arnold Schouten moved to approve the CC MRC March 2023 Minutes with Mike Doherty's amendment; Helle Andersen seconded. The minutes were accepted with that change.*

Presentation by Melissa Williams

Education Director of the Feiro Marine Life Center Melissa Williams presented on the upcoming Marine Discovery Center, an expansion of the Feiro Marine Life Center. The Feiro Marine Life Center opened in 1981 with the intention of functioning as a laboratory for Peninsula College. The City of Port Angeles owns the present building on the City Pier. In 2006, the relationship between the Center and College changed and a group of community members came together to reform the Center as a stand-alone nonprofit organization. In addition to Feiro staff, 30 to 40 naturalist volunteers help with the Center and community outreach programs. Existing programs include tidepool exploration with the Clallam Bay Library summer reading program, a watershed science project on Peabody Creek for 4th grade students, an underwater robotics summer camp for 10–12-year-olds, and a stranded marine mammal network. A benefit of Feiro programs is that they are “school agnostic,” meaning that students from any school or

school district may participate. A new building is needed now, as the current location has reached its end-of-life status, presents multiple operational barriers, and there is not enough room for it to be remodeled on site. A new facility will offer new and expanded opportunities, including professional accreditation. The Marine Discovery Center will be relocating to the corner of Oak and Front Streets with the theme of "One ocean unites us all." The region covered by the new Center will be from Protection Island to Ocean Shores, including the six coastal tribes in that area. Melissa showed illustrations of displays and described examples of sub-themes such as Oceans and People, Biodiversity, Ocean Exploration, Threats to the Ocean, and Taking Action. To honor the Feiro legacy, the current site will be reused as the Arthur D. Feiro Learning Laboratory. Prior to the pandemic, the Center saw about 30,000 annual visitors; about 75,000 visitors are estimated at the new facility. The fundraising campaign is in the "quiet phase" right now, focusing on raising 70-80% of the campaign goal over the next 12-18 months through top major gift leads. Melissa also recognized Arnold and Debbie Schouten's work and research, which will be represented in the new Center.

NWSC Update

Alan Clark gave an update on NWSC news. The Commission has returned to in-person meetings on alternating months; the last meeting was held in-person. On 3/30/2023-3/31/2023, the Commission and the Northwest Straits Foundation met in La Conner to go over next steps and plans for working together with the MRCs. The 2023 NWSC Conference will be held on 11/3/2023-11/4/2023 in Port Townsend; the CC MRC can plan for attending and accommodations. The Jefferson MRC is interested in having a joint meeting with the CC MRC when the weather warms up. On 4/5/23, Alan Clark joined NWSC Director Lucas Hart and the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe at Littleneck Beach to welcome Senator Patty Murray. Robert Knapp was one of the principal presenters. Robert thanked the group for their support and discussed plans for more legislative funding for European green crab management. More information can be found on the NWSC website: [Northwest Straits Commission | Marine Conservation in Washington \(nwstraits.org\)](https://nwstraits.org).

NWSC Request for Proposals for 2023-2025

Rebecca Mahan led continued discussion on current and new projects for the congressionally directed spending funds, which will be available on 1/1/24. The County is working on increasing the full time equivalent for an outreach and events position to help Rebecca. She met with Feiro Marine Life Center to work together on the issues of sharing an intern position and collaborating on the Sound Toxins monitoring and a pinto abalone project. She also met with Peninsula College about the possibility of incorporating student interns from their new Natural Resources Program. In terms of the Valley Creek project, the Port of Port Angeles is on board to help with native plantings. The City of Port Angeles may be able to help with invasive weeds but is concerned about it being a mitigation site, which would require special permitting. Allyce Miller gave a brief presentation on Pebble Beach Backshore Revegetation, describing a draft proposal for planting in the pocket estuary. The design involves planting dune grass and maintaining trails and sidewalks, with a budget between \$1000 and \$1500. The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe is very interested in partnering with the CC MRC on the project. Helle Andersen suggested expanding the proposal to incorporate invasive weed management at some other beaches. Ann Soule is working on acquiring more coasters for outreach. Rebecca brought up an opportunity to participate in a pilot survey with Washington State University, which trains volunteers to monitor beaches for European green crab molts using the MyCoast app; *she will send out more information. Lyn Muench mentioned other upcoming outreach events such as the Dungeness River Festival and Crab Fest. Arnold Schouten added Oiled Wildlife Response Training to the list of outreach events. Current projects include forage fish surveys, pigeon guillemot surveys, Olympia oyster restoration, kelp monitoring, education and outreach, Elwha Beach stewardship, and Biotoxins.

Forage Fish Survey Presentation

Tim Cochnauer presented on the forage fish project, which surveys sand lance, pacific herring, grunion, and surf smelt eggs. Rock sole are not considered forage fish, but they are also found along the Strait. The project samples four beaches: Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, and the east and west sides of the Elwha River. Sediment is collected four times along a 100-foot transect below the second high tide of the last 24 hours. The sediment is run through three sieves, with the fines put into a bowl where the eggs float to the top. Tim displayed a graph of surf smelt findings from 2022 at Cline Spit. They can spawn year-round, but predominantly from May through September. The highest counts are around 200 eggs per month. The eggs are mostly found in sheltered coves and bays. The survey team has only found about two sand lance and rock sole eggs over the last two years. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife data for Pacific herring show that numbers peaked in 1990 in Discovery Bay and in 2000 in Dungeness Bay; numbers have been declining since then. Reasons include marine shoreline degradation, bird and marine mammal predation, development, and the loss of sea grass and kelp. Ten-year averages of Puget Sound wild Chinook salmon show nearly a 50% decrease since the 1970's and 80's. Alan Clark commented that local fishermen remark that kelp has thinned appreciably. Ed Bowlby added that the Washington Department of Natural Resources has data from aerial kelp surveys for the last 20 years. Alan noted that non-canopy species seem to be outcompeting canopy species, which may be linked to extensive sea urchin harvesting, water temperature, and other causes.

Project Updates

Ed Bowlby announced that pigeon guillemot surveys will recommence in June and go through August. They are looking for volunteers. He gave a presentation to Surfrider, which garnered a lot of interest. About 20 volunteers from last year will be returning. They are hoping to increase volunteers and sites this year. The Pigeon Guillemot Network has hired a new director. Collaborators from the University of Washington will be attending a site visit this week for the region-wide effort with Jefferson and Clallam counties. *Ed will send his request for volunteers to Rebecca Mahan for distribution. Nancy Stephanz asked about an Earth Day event and Olympia oyster surveys. Chris Burns said that oyster surveys will start in May this year on 5/8-5/9 and 5/18-5/20. Ed clarified that there would not be an Earth Day event in Port Angeles this year because there were no sponsors available to host it. Rebecca gave an update on the oyster shell project: they are still waiting for permits; shell should be purchased as soon as the permits come through. Sasha Horst said that if the permits are not available in time, the proposal can be expanded for next year.

Good of the Order

Tim Cochauer noted that elections of a new CC MRC Chair, Vice Chair, and NWSC representative will be held in May. Alan Clark volunteered to continue to represent the CC MRC with the NWSC unless anyone else wished to take it on. Mike Doherty reminded the group that Rebecca Mahan sent out a notice about the proposed rescue tug; workshops on different sections of the rulemaking start in May and go through October and public opinion will be accepted. Mike also mentioned that Clea Rome with the Washington State University Extension Office gave a great presentation to the Board of County Commissioners about climate change and the impacts of greenhouse gases. The transportation of the logging sector was a huge component. Ed Bowlby said that public comments will be accepted at next week's County Commissioner meeting. Bob Vreeland added his support for the Clallam County report. Discussion followed on climate change and how the CC MRC might address it. Rebecca added that the Washington Coast Cleanup would be taking place on Saturday for Earth Day; she has talked to Washington CoastSavers about future collaboration.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Chair Tim Cochnauer adjourned the meeting at 7:24 PM.

Action Items:

**Rebecca Mahan will send out more information on the European green crab pilot survey.*

**Ed Bowlby will send his request for pigeon guillemot volunteers to Rebecca Mahan for distribution.*

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

June 26, 2023

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval May minutes.

5:45

6:00 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

6:10 NWSC RFP for 2023-2025

- Submitted

6:50 Project Updates

- Coaster order - Ann Soule
- GPS/GoPro – need decision on which GoPro/GPS to order
- Olympia Oyster – Chris Burns
- Pigeon Guillemot – Ed Bowlby
- Ed/Outreach – Tabling event Forever Streamfest invite Oct. 14 2023 10-3:30pm
- Forage Fish – Tim Cochnauer
- Elwha Beach stewardship – Helle
- Kelp surveys – Jeff Ward & Alan Clark

6:50 Good of the Order – EGC surveys via the app. Who attended and is going to do more surveys?

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

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Topic: MRC

Join Zoom Meeting

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May 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, May 15, 2023

Time: 5:30-7:00 PM

Location: Zoom hybrid meeting

Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Helle Andersen (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism Alternate), Ed Bowlby (Academic Community Representative), Chris Burns (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Alternate), Alan Clark (Community at Large Representative; Vice Chair; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Mike Doherty (District 3), Robert Knapp (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe), Lyn Muench (District 2), Ann Soule (District 2), Justin Stapleton (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe), Ann Stafford (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism), LaTrisha Suggs (City of Port Angeles), Lance Vail (District 1 Alternate), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment Representative)

Others present: Rebekah Brooks (Rebekah Brooks Contracting), Kitty Cole (Clallam County Environmental Health, Water Quality Specialist), Cathy Lear (Clallam County Habitat Biologist [CC]), Tamara Galvan (Feiro Marine Life Center), Sasha Horst (NWSC), Rebecca Mahan (CC Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Vice Chair Alan Clark called the meeting to order. Ed Bowlby asked to add public announcements for the CC MRC meetings under the Good of the Order section. ***Mike Doherty moved to accept the agenda. Ann Soule requested changing the Current Project list: Education and Outreach from one item to the four items represented within that category: 1: Coasters, 2: Interns, 3: Festivals, and 4: Oiled Wildlife Training. Lyn Muench seconded the motion to accept the agenda with that change. The motion passed with all in favor.***

Public Comment / Approval of April Minutes

Ed Bowlby corrected the spelling of Arnold and Debbie Schouten's last name in the April draft minutes. Mike Doherty requested the addition of the presenter of the CC climate change presentation: Clea Rome, with the Washington State University Extension Office, which *he will send to Rebecca Mahan for inclusion in the final draft of the April minutes. ***Mike Doherty moved to accept the minutes with those changes; Ed Bowlby seconded. The minutes were accepted with those changes.***

Elections of Officers

*Alan Clark volunteered to continue to serve as the NWSC representative for the CC MRC. *Tim Cochnauer volunteered to continue to serve as the Chair for the CC MRC. Lyn Muench nominated Ann Soule for Vice Chair for the CC MRC. ***Ed Bowlby moved to accept the positions as volunteered and nominated; Mike Doherty seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.*** Sasha Horst and Cathy Lear thanked the members who volunteered to serve in all those positions.

NWSC Update

Alan Clark gave an update on NWSC news. The Commission has returned to in-person meetings on alternating months. Congressionally directed spending (CDS) funds are on track but need to be shored up. Reauthorization is still in progress. Tim Ellis with the Skagit MRC was elected as Chair of the NWSC; Alan Clark was re-elected as Vice Chair. The 2023 NWSC Conference will be held on 11/3/2023-11/4/2023 in Port Townsend. More information can be found on the NWSC website: [Northwest Straits Commission | Marine Conservation in Washington \(nwstraits.org\)](https://nwstraits.org).

NWSC Request for Proposals for 2023-2025

Rebecca Mahan led continued discussion on current and new projects for the CDS funds, which will be available on 1/1/24. The County is working on increasing the 1.25 full-time equivalent for an outreach and events position to help Rebecca, but assistance is needed. She emphasized that increased staffing is necessary in order to add the new projects. Since there is no way to guarantee an additional staff member before submitting the project list, Sasha Horst said that the best way to proceed is to submit the proposals with the plans for additional staff. That way the MRC can show that they are willing to designate funds for increased staffing. The project list can be adapted and reworked if needed.

- Current Projects:
 - o Forage Fish: This project was kept and will stay the same.
 - o Pigeon Guillemot: This project was kept and will stay the same.
 - o Olympia Oysters Restoration: Rebecca has been in touch with Chris Burns and Liz Tobin with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe to discuss this project. The CC MRC will continue to coordinate with the Tribe on oyster surveys. This project was kept and will stay the same.
 - § CDS Shell Placement: If the permit does not come through until October, the shell will be placed next year because it is tide dependent. Sasha Horst has confirmed that the timing for this project can be extended: the permit can be acquired this year and the shell placed next year. Chris Burns offered an update on the project under Project Updates.
 - o Kelp Monitoring: This project was kept and will stay the same.
 - o Education/Outreach: Coasters: This project was kept, but the cost has increased to twice the previous amount. Ann Soule offered an update on the project under Project Updates.
 - o Education/Outreach: Interns: Rebecca and Tim Cochnauer are working with Peninsula College and Feiro Marine Life Center to get student interns who can help with Feiro and MRC projects.
 - o Education/Outreach: Festivals: An upgrade of CC MRC materials is needed. Rebecca has not purchased anything new yet. It will take some time to work with a graphic designer who can create some new posters and outreach products.
 - o Education/Outreach: Oiled Wildlife Response Training: There are upcoming classes on field operations and wildlife first responder training.
 - o Elwha Beach Stewardship: *Helle Andersen volunteered as the project lead. The group discussed the value of keeping this beach clean, conducting surveys on how many people use the beach, and possible partnership opportunities. Helle said that the goal is to collect the data with the intention of handing the project off to the County for future management. Ed Bowlby suggested sending out a poll to CC MRC members to see if they could volunteer to go out once per week to monitor beach use. Lyn Muench pointed out that monitoring days and times should be random.

- Biotoxins: Bob Vreeland will continue his shellfish sampling. Nancy Stephanz will take the lead on Sound Toxins surveys. European green crab surveys will also be included in the Biotoxins Projects category.
- New Projects Ideas:
 - Pinto Abalone: This project will start with a pilot study survey.
 - Sound Toxins: This project will be done in collaboration with Feiro Marine Life Center.
 - Continuing Shell Placement: This project is included under Current Projects: Olympia Oyster Restoration.
 - Valley Creek Pocket Beach/Estuary Noxious Weed Control/Native Planting: The group discussed which beaches to include in this project, and whether the initial project idea of restoring the pocket beach should be combined with additional weed control and native planting on extra beaches. *Cathy Lear volunteered to look at both proposals to see where they intersect.

Ann Soule asked for clarification of what Task 1 referred to in the spreadsheet. Sasha Horst explained that Task 1 covered communications work like festivals, website, social media, etc. that raised awareness about the MRC and its programs in the community. The Committee reviewed the remaining elements of the project list that still needed to be worked out, including the scale of the Valley Creek project, and filling in the spreadsheet with associated project costs. *Ann Soule volunteered to assist.

Lyn Muench moved to accept the project list as discussed; Alan Clark seconded. After consideration, Ed Bowlby and Lyn made a friendly amendment to the motion to authorize the Chair, Vice Chair, project leads and interested subgroup to work together on the remaining decisions and make the final decisions. The motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates

Ann Soule said that regarding the Coaster order, she found the vendor that Olympic Printers had used before as well as several other vendors, and the cost was back to \$0.50 per item or less. *She will make the order that was agreed to in March before the end of May in coordination with Rebecca Mahan.

*Alan Clark and Tim Cochnauer will let Rebecca know which GPS/GoPro tool they want her to order.

Chris Burns reported that he had found more shell for the Oyster Shell Placement project, in addition to the 122 bags he purchased previously. The new order was being bagged; when the first 800 bags out of the 4,000 he ordered are ready, he will go pick them up. During high tides, the shell will be delivered to the beaches, and next spring the shell will be spread by hand.

Good of the Order

Ed Bowlby brought up the challenge the CC MRC has faced in engaging the public in their meetings, and the difficulty with publicizing the meetings in the media. Rebecca Mahan said that she emails the Peninsula Daily News each month with the CC MRC meeting times but has not been able to get the newspaper to post their announcements. The group discussed alternative ways of advertising. LaTrisha Suggs suggested that Rebecca check with CC's IT department to see if they could assist.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Alan Clark adjourned the meeting at 7:09 PM.

Action Items:

**Mike Doherty will send to Rebecca Mahan the presenter of the CC climate change presentation: Clea Rome, with the Washington State University Extension Office, for inclusion in the final draft of the April minutes.*

**Alan Clark volunteered to continue to serve as the NWSC representative for the CC MRC.*

**Tim Cochnauer volunteered to continue to serve as the Chair for the CC MRC.*

**Helle Andersen volunteered as the project lead for the Elwha Beach Stewardship project.*

**Cathy Lear volunteered to look at both Valley Creek proposals to see where they intersect.*

**Ann Soule volunteered to assist with the project list and spreadsheet.*

**Ann Soule will make the Coaster order that was agreed to in March before the end of May in coordination with Rebecca Mahan.*

**Alan Clark and Tim Cochnauer will let Rebecca Mahan know which GPS/GoPro tool they want her to order.*

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

June 26, 2023

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval May minutes.

5:45 Announcements

Educational/Display sub-committee members needed (and everyone mark your calendars for helping at these events!)

- Dungeness River Festival September 22, 2023
- Forever Streamfest October 14, 2023

6:00 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

6:10 NWSC RFP for 2023-2025

- Submitted

6:50 Project Updates

- GPS/GoPro – need decision on which GoPro/GPS to order
- Olympia Oyster – Chris Burns
- Pigeon Guillemot – Ed Bowlby
- Ed/Outreach – Coaster order – Ann Soule
 - EGC molt surveys – App. training
- Forage Fish – Tim Cochauner
- Elwha Beach stewardship – Helle Andersen
- Kelp surveys – Jeff Ward & Alan Clark

6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

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June 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, June 26, 2023

Time: 5:30-7:00 PM

Location: Zoom hybrid meeting

Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Helle Andersen (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism Alternate), Alan Clark (Community at Large Representative; Vice Chair; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Mike Doherty (District 3), Robert Knapp (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe), Arnold Schouten (Development Community Representative), Ann Soule (District 2), Justin Stapleton (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe), Nancy Stephanz (Ecology Alternate), LaTrisha Suggs (City of Port Angeles), Lance Vail (District 1 Alternate), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment Representative)

Others present: Rebecca Mahan (CC Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator), Alisa Taylor (Former CC MRC Intern)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Nancy Stephanz asked to include an update on the Sound Toxins project. Tim Cochnauer added it to the agenda under "Project Updates." Rebecca Mahan added an additional announcement under "Announcements."

Public Comment / Approval of May Minutes

Nancy Stephanz made a clarification to the Biotoxins project list under the section on **NWSC Request for Proposals for 2023-2025**. *Mike Doherty moved to accept the minutes with that change; Helle Andersen seconded. The minutes were accepted with that change.*

Announcements

Educational Display Subcommittee Members Needed

Rebecca Mahan announced that there was an Educational Display Subcommittee; it is open for others to join. She reminded the group to mark their calendars for the Dungeness River Festival, which is scheduled for 9/22/23, and Forever Streamfest, scheduled for 10/14/23. She added that the NWSC asked the MRCs to present on one of their projects at the NWSC Conference, which will be held at the Port Townsend Marine Science Center on 11/3/23-11/4/23. This can include a 15-minute slide-show presentation, contributing to a combined slide show, hosting a table, and/or submitting a poster. All are optional. A response is required by 8/30/23. Nancy Stephanz suggested that the same poster could be used for the festivals and the conference. *Ann Soule volunteered to participate in the Educational Display Subcommittee. Mike Doherty announced Sekiu Fun Days, which will be on the weekend of 7/4/23. A presentation on the history of Clallam Bay and Sekiu will be held at the Sekiu Schoolhouse on 7/8/23 at 7:30 PM, prior to the fireworks display. Ann Soule added that the Sunsets West Co-op in Clallam Bay handed out some of the CC MRC coasters, which were well received.

NWSC Update

Alan Clark gave an update on NWSC news. The Commission has returned to in-person meetings on alternate months; the last one was held on Lopez Island. The Executive Committee is looking at NWSC structure and how the Commission comes together, which has been in a state of flux ever since the pandemic. The NWSC has capacity funding from state and federal sources. There is a new NWS coordinator, who is establishing structure on communication efforts. Lucas Hart is putting together a Memorandum of Understanding for the two NWS organizations. The meeting also included a summary of the Kelp Plan. While local kelp beds seem to be doing well, many are diminishing and disappearing farther south. There was also discussion on transboundary issues; to that end, the San Juan MRC has drafted letter in support of a rescue tug in Sydney Harbor or Roche Harbor. Alan suggested that the CC MRC may want to consider signing it, along with County representatives. Mike Doherty proposed inviting the San Juan MRC to present their research on the rescue tug and vessel traffic in the Strait. *Mike Doherty offered to help Alan with efforts for a community event on the rescue tug and associated issues. The 2023 NWSC Conference will be held on 11/3/2023-11/4/2023 in Port Townsend. More information can be found on the NWSC website: [Northwest Straits Commission | Marine Conservation in Washington \(nwstraits.org\)](https://www.nwstraits.org/).

Arnold Schouten added an announcement on marine pollution. With the rise in waterfowl hunting, there has also been an increase in plastic shotgun wads washing up on beaches. In response, Surfrider started a program that allows citizens to report locations where the shotgun wads are retrieved as marine debris. Arnold encouraged the CC MRC to become involved in the reporting project. More information can be found at [San Francisco — Shotgun Wad Watcher \(surfrider.org\)](https://www.surfrider.org/).

NWSC Request for Proposals for 2023-2025

Rebecca Mahan announced that the Request for Proposals (RFP) had been submitted to the NWSC Science Committee. Sasha Horst will respond after the RFP is reviewed.

Project Updates

GPS/GoPro

Alan Clark said that Alisa Taylor has been helping with research into replacing the CC MRC GoPro. The CC MRC had a GoPro 8, but now that model has been replaced by newer models. The batteries, waterproof case, and other accessories are not interchangeable. The newer models are designed to interface with the latest technology. Tim Cochauer proposed purchasing extra batteries with the GoPro that Alan and Alisa decide on. *The order request will be sent to Rebecca Mahan when the decision is made.

Olympia Oyster

Robert Knapp said that Chris Burns was still working on the permitting for the shell placement. Rebecca Mahan added that Chris had found another lead on acquiring shell.

Pigeon Guillemot

Ed Bowlby was not present for an update, but several Committee members reported seeing pigeon guillemots.

Education and Outreach: Coasters

Ann Soule gave an update. Another set of coasters were ordered in three new designs: Olympia oyster, bull kelp, and Dungeness crab. She also sourced a new company that is less expensive and better quality than the previous company used. The backs of the coasters include a QR code that will take viewers to more information on the CC MRC website, including facts about the creatures featured, the associated

CC MRC projects, and the CC MRC itself. Ann is looking for some experts on the species to help write some succinct informational paragraphs; *Alan Clark offered to help with the bull kelp; *Bob Vreeland and Lance Vail volunteered to help with the crab. Ann anticipated having 7,500 coasters in hand before the July CC MRC meeting and encouraged everyone to pick up bundles for distribution. Rebecca Mahan will have a sign-out sheet in her office that will include intended drop-off locations. Tim Cochnauer reminded the group to keep some coasters for handing out at the upcoming festivals.

Nancy Stephanz stated that she had seen an announcement in the Peninsula Daily news for this CC MRC meeting.

No one reported attending the European Green Crab molt training.

Forage Fish

Tim Cochnauer announced that sampling was collected for May and June. There were over 400 eggs collected at Cline Spit in May, but none found at Ediz Hook or Elwha Beach, which was typical. The June samples have not been processed yet.

Elwha Beach Stewardship

Helle Andersen and Tim Cochnauer conducted their first surveys at Elwha Beach. Helle replaced the dog waste bags and set up a random schedule for six surveys through September. Helle observed 41 people and three dogs; Tim saw 11 people and three dogs. *Rebecca Mahan will order more dog waste bags.

Kelp Surveys

Alan Clark announced that the surveys would be starting a little later this year. The survey dates will be selected for low tide days in July and August.

Biotoxins: Sound Toxins

Nancy Stephanz said that Sound Toxins surveys were scheduled to start on Monday, 7/17/23. A representative from the Port Townsend team will be coming out to help the Port Angeles surveys get started. Nancy shared some information about harmful algal blooms found in Alaska with real-time data gathered from boat tow equipment.

Biotoxins: Shellfish

Bob Vreeland reported that everywhere east of the Lyre River was closed for paralytic shellfish poisoning. Pillar Point is still open; Bob sampled there last week.

Good of the Order

Rebecca Mahan will be on vacation 7/18/23-7/26/23.

Public Comments

Mike Doherty asked whether the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe would like a letter of support for their beach nourishment work at Ediz Hook. Rebecca Mahan confirmed that the Tribe had been conducting a beach nourishment project on the south side of the Hook, but they had run out of project funds. Mike advocated for supporting the work if it was productive. Alan Clark said that the NWSC had not been able to get reauthorization. The bill will probably be submitted by Representative Larsen or Kilmer but is not anticipated to pass until there is a democratic majority. Funding for the NWSC will come from congressionally directed spending funds in the interim.

Adjournment

Chair Tim Cochnauer adjourned the meeting at 6:38 PM.

Action Items:

**Ann Soule volunteered to participate in the Educational Display Subcommittee.*

**Mike Doherty offered to help Alan Clark with efforts for a community event on the rescue tug and associated issues.*

**Alan Clark will send the order request for a GoPro/GPS to Rebecca Mahan.*

**Alan Clark offered to help with the bull kelp information on the CC MRC website; *Bob Vreeland and Lance Vail volunteered to help with the crab information.*

**Rebecca Mahan will order more dog waste bags.*

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

July 17, 2023

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval June minutes.

5:45 Announcements

Educational Display - review Clallam MRC Logo proofs from graphic designer

Everyone mark your calendars for helping at these events:

- Dungeness River Festival September 22, 2023
- Forever Streamfest October 14, 2023

Rescue Tug (letter and/or presentation) – Mike Doherty and Alan Clark

6:00 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

6:10 Project Updates

- GPS/GoPro – bought and received
- Olympia Oyster – Chris Burns
- Pigeon Guillemot – Ed Bowlby
- Ed/Outreach – Coaster order – Ann Soule
- Ed/Outreach New Displays – Ann Soule
- Forage Fish – Tim Cochnauer
- Elwha Beach stewardship – Helle Andersen
- Kelp surveys – Jeff Ward & Alan Clark
- Biotoxins – Bob Vreeland
- Sound Toxins – Nancy Stephanz
- Catch more crab – Lance Vail (posters and informational cards need distributing)

6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

2023 Meetings

January 23

April 17

July 17

October 16

February 27

May 15

August 21

November 20

March 20

June 26

September 18

December 18

Clallam County DCD is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: MRC

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485?pwd=N3dMbHRyL3l5TnpKNGtVSGtWYk5VQT09>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,85314804485#,,,,*12345# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

2023 Meetings

January 23

February 27

March 20

April 17

May 15

June 26

July 17

August 21

September 18

October 16

November 20

December 18



July 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, July 17, 2023

Time: 5:30-7:00 PM

Location: Zoom hybrid meeting

Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Ann Stafford (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism), Helle Andersen (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism Alternate), Ed Bowlby (Academic Community), Chris Burns (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Alternate), Alan Clark (Community at Large; Vice Chair; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Tim Cochnauer (Community at Large; Chair), Mike Doherty (District 3), Allyce Miller (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Alternate), Ann Soule (District 2), Nancy Stephanz (Ecology Alternate), LaTrisha Suggs (City of Port Angeles), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment), Jeff Ward (District 1)

Others present: Rebekah Brooks (Rebekah Brooks Contracting), Tamara Galvan (Feiro Marine Life Center), Katie Kowal (Clallam County), Rebecca Mahan (CC Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator), Alisa Taylor (Former CC MRC Intern)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Rebecca Mahan and Tim Cochnauer requested several additions under Announcements. Mike Doherty said he had some announcements to make under the Good of the Order.

Public Comment / Approval of June Minutes

Bob Vreeland made a correction the June CC MRC Minutes under Biotoxins: Shellfish: they should say: "Bob Vreeland reported that everywhere east of the *Lyre River* was closed for paralytic shellfish poisoning, not east of *Three Rivers*." Helle Andersen made a correction to the date of Sekiu Fun Days: it should be 7/4 instead of 4/7. ***Bob Vreeland moved to accept the minutes as amended; Alan Clark seconded. The minutes were accepted by consensus with those changes.***

Announcements

Educational Display

Rebecca Mahan and Ann Soule led discussion on review of the CC MRC logo mockups from the graphic designer. ***Ann Soule moved to choose the rectangular shape with the bump in the middle, permitting the Educational Display Subcommittee to fine tune changes like emphasizing the "Marine Resources Committee" font over the Clallam County font.*** Rebecca clarified that the logo was made with vector art, which will allow it to be used on anything and at any size. The group discussed the various designs, and the sea star picture in the logo. ***Ann Soule amended her motion to have the Subcommittee continue work on the logo, bringing new options back to the August CC MRC meeting if the budget allows, perhaps with an updated sea star; Bob Vreeland seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.***

Upcoming Events

Tim Cochnauer announced the Dungeness River Festival, scheduled for 9/22/23. The CC MRC has had booths there before. The Educational Display Subcommittee has come up with some new ideas for displays; concrete ideas will be needed by the August CC MRC meeting. *If anyone is interested in helping, sign up through Rebecca Mahan. Forever Streamfest is scheduled for 10/14/23 at Peninsula College. Additional updates included the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Mussel Monitoring Program, which is adding new sites to the program and will need volunteers when the program starts back up in several months; and a series of oil spill workshops, the next one to focus on the administrative process and scheduled for 7/27/23. Rebecca has sent out information on the workshops. *Tim Cochnauer volunteered to participate in the WDFW Mussel Program.

Rescue Tug

Mike Doherty reminded the group that the San Juan Island MRC and cosponsors held a Rescue Tug panel, and he invited them to present to Clallam and Jefferson Counties. The Committee discussed ideas for logistics, including meeting dates and times for the fall. Mike suggested contacting the Jefferson MRC to see if they are interested.

NWSC Update

Alan Clark gave an update on NWSC news. Due to scheduling, there has not been a NWSC meeting since the last CC MRC meeting. The Commission has returned to in-person meetings on alternate months; the last one was held on Lopez Island. The Executive Committee is looking at NWS Initiative structure and how the Commission and Foundation might work together in the future; this has been in a state of flux ever since the pandemic. Upcoming ideas include better communication. There may be a get together during the NWSC Conference in November. The 2023 NWSC Conference will be held on 11/3/2023-11/4/2023 in Port Townsend. Alan reminded the group to start thinking about how they might want to attend the conference. More information can be found on the NWSC website: [Northwest Straits Commission | Marine Conservation in Washington \(nwstraits.org\)](https://www.nwstraits.org/).

Project Updates

GPS/GoPro

Rebecca Mahan reported that the new GoFish camera was bought and received. Alan Clark said that it could be used to investigate the diminishing kelp beds.

Olympia Oyster

Chris Burns said they were still waiting on the permits for the shell placement, which are expected in September. He has sourced enough shell for the project; 800 more bags will be coming from Willapa Bay. When the permits are in, he will start placing shell on beaches by boat over the winter. The shell will be spread by hand during lower spring tides. Rebecca Mahan has been in communication with Sasha Horst, who will be able to extend the project contract due to the permit delays.

Pigeon Guillemot

Ed Bowlby said the surveys were on week seven of ten. They added a new site this year. Most of the volunteers from last year returned.

Education and Outreach: Coasters

Ann Soule said that the coasters were delayed but were now underway. They should arrive by 8/1/23. The website has been updated with creature facts that are linked to the coasters through QR code.

Education and Outreach: New Displays

Ann Soule reported a great brainstorming meeting with the Educational Display Subcommittee. They decided to model the CC MRC displays after Jefferson County MRC's, with a vertical sign featuring the MRC name and a simple description, and more information and photos on additional signs about oysters, crab, and kelp. There will also be hands-on elements. Some displays will be ready in time for the Dungeness River Festival. *Ed Bowlby volunteered to help with the Subcommittee. LaTrisha Suggs suggested setting up signs with some of the CC MRC featured species as a permanent installation downtown; *Ann will add that idea to the list.

Forage Fish

Tim Cochnauer said that May is typically the highest month for surf smelt, particularly on Cline Spit; there were over 400 eggs collected at Cline Spit in May, but only about 50 in June. The total for the other three sites was about 5 eggs for the entire duration of the surveys. The data suggests that Cline Spit is the primary site for surf smelt and that the other eggs are showing up randomly. July surveys will start on 7/18/23.

Elwha Beach Stewardship

Helle Andersen and Tim Cochnauer have conducted four random surveys at Elwha Beach. Helle is also working with Arnold Schouten to coincide with an excellent surf day. Most days she has only seen 10-40 people. About 200 dog waste bags have been used in the last month. The group discussed the fact that the portable toilet was tipped over about a month ago. Chris Burns reported seeing surf smelt on the beach.

Kelp Surveys

Alan Clark announced that the surveys would be starting soon in Clallam and Freshwater Bays. The survey team will be using the GoFish camera to inspect the kelp beds. The survey dates will be selected for low tide and less windy days in later July and August.

Biotoxins: Shellfish

Bob Vreeland reported that there was a Marine Biotoxin Bulletin that announced that Clallam County was now open for all species of shellfish from Cape Flattery east to Dungeness Spit, even though it was closed five days ago. Water quality specialist with Clallam County Katie Kowal added that several low samples opened things up again; east of Dungeness Spit in Jefferson County is open to everything but butter and varnish clams.

Biotoxins: Sound Toxins

Nancy Stephanz said that Sound Toxins surveys started today with their first training session. A new guide will help the survey team identify seven key species; they thought they recognized two of them today. Samples will continue weekly starting the first Monday in August. The Sound Toxin team will borrow the microscope from the forage fish survey team.

Catch More Crab

Rebecca Mahan has more rack cards and posters in her office if anyone has a place to distribute them. She refilled the rack holders in Freshwater Bay.

Good of the Order

Bob Vreeland asked whether European green crab were edible; Rebecca Mahan confirmed that they were eaten and used in various ways. Rebecca asked the group to make any comments on the grant she circulated under "Track Changes" so she can compile everything for Sasha Horst. Ann Soule and Mike

Doherty announced that the Port Angeles Fine Arts Center was open and would be holding a grand opening event for free that would feature ballet, bands, and art; the terminus exhibit about disappearing glaciers was very powerful. Ann added that a special panel on Climate Change and Resiliency featuring Bill Bacchus, Ian Miller, and Liz Schotman would be held on 7/20/23.

Public Comments

There were none.

Adjournment

Chair Tim Cochnauer adjourned the meeting at 6:47 PM.

Action Items:

**If anyone is interested in helping with CC MRC educational displays, sign up through Rebecca Mahan.*

**Tim Cochnauer volunteered to participate in the WDFW Mussel Program.*

**Ed Bowlby volunteered to help with the Educational Display Subcommittee.*

**Ann Soule will add LaTrisha Sugg's idea of permanent installation CC MRC signs to the list of educational display ideas.*

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

August 21, 2023
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval July minutes.

5:45 Announcements

Educational Display – Review and Select a Clallam MRC Logo from proofs

Everyone mark your calendars for helping at these events:

- Dungeness River Festival September 22, 2023
- Forever Streamfest October 14, 2023
- 2023 NWSC Conference November 3-4 2023

Rescue Tug – Mike Doherty and Alan Clark- update on contact w/Jefferson MRC

MRC Grant – Ediz Hook Proposal – Discussion of comments from NWSC

6:00 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

6:10 Project Updates

- Olympia Oyster – Chris Burns
- Pigeon Guillemot – Ed Bowlby
- Ed/Outreach – Coaster order – Ann Soule
- Ed/Outreach New Displays – Ann Soule
- Forage Fish – Tim Cochnauer
- Elwha Beach stewardship – Helle Andersen
- Kelp surveys – Jeff Ward & Alan Clark
- Biotoxins – Bob Vreeland
- Sound Toxins – Nancy Stephanz

6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

2023 Meetings

January 23

April 17

July 17

October 16

February 27

May 15

August 21

November 20

March 20

June 26

September 18

December 18

Clallam County DCD is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: MRC

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485?pwd=N3dMbHRyL3l5TnpKNGtVSGtWYk5VQT09>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,85314804485#,,,,*12345# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

2023 Meetings

January 23

February 27

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May 15

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August 21

September 18

October 16

November 20

December 18



August 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, August 21, 2023
Time: 5:30-7:00 PM
Location: Zoom hybrid meeting
Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Ed Bowlby (Academic Community), Chris Burns (Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe Alternate), Alan Clark (Community at Large; Vice Chair; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Tim Cochnauer (Community at Large; Chair), Mike Doherty (District 3), Robert Knapp (Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe), Allyce Miller (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Alternate), Lyn Muench (District 2), Arnold Schouten (Development Community), Ann Soule (District 2), Ann Stafford (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism), (Nancy Stephanz (Ecology Alternate), LaTrisha Suggs (City of Port Angeles), Lance Vail (District 1 Alternate), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment), Jeff Ward (District 1)

Others present: Rebekah Brooks (Rebekah Brooks Contracting), Cathy Lear (CC), Rebecca Mahan (CC Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator), Leah Robison (NWSC), Alisa Taylor (Former CC MRC Intern), Jeff Whitty (NWSC)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Mike Doherty said he had some announcements to make under the Good of the Order.

Public Comment / Approval of July Minutes

Ann Stafford corrected the July minutes to reflect that she was in attendance. ***Ann Soule moved to accept the minutes as amended; Alan Clark seconded. The July CC MRC minutes were accepted by consensus with that change.***

Announcements

Educational Display

Rebecca Mahan and Ann Soule led discussion on review of the updated CC MRC logo mockups from the graphic designer. Rebecca noted that the logo needed to be selected during the meeting to be in time for printing materials for upcoming festivals. The group discussed various customizations to the preferred logos, including the addition of a second sea star, and widening one of the logos. They agreed on the second horizontal logo on the left, with some minor customizations like stretching the logo and dropping the sea star between the words “Clallam” and “County.” They also selected the last round logo on the left, but with white dots on the sea star instead of yellow.

Upcoming Events

The Dungeness River Festival is scheduled for 9/22/23 from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM, with the theme of connecting people with their watersheds. Paperwork for hosting a booth is due by the end of the month. The exhibits must have an educational activity for grades 3-5, and a question for the passport that students will receive. Setup will be on Thursday, 9/21/23, between 2:00 and 6:00 PM, or on Friday,

9/22/23, between 7:00 and 9:00 AM. *Rebecca Mahan will send out a sign-up sheet for volunteers. Forever Streamfest is scheduled for 10/14/23 at Peninsula College. Rebecca has not received all the details yet, but the event is geared for the general public and will be indoors. They will also be organizing 15-minute presentations from participating groups. *Rebecca will send out a sign-up sheet for that event when more information is available. There are several options for sharing at the 2023 NWSC Conference in Port Townsend on 11/3/23 and 11/4/23. The CC MRC can choose to: 1: prepare a 15-minute presentation that showcases one of their projects; 2: design a poster that would be displayed in the gallery room; and 3: contribute toward a combined slideshow. The group agreed that options 2 and 3 were preferable.

Rescue Tug Update

Mike Doherty went over his efforts to reach out to the Friends of the San Juans about the Rescue Tug panel regarding presenting to Clallam and Jefferson Counties. He and Alan Clark discussed proposed locations for the rescue tug and contacting the boards of county commissioners for next planning steps.

NWSC Update

Alan Clark gave an update on NWSC news. He did not attend the 7/28/23 meeting, but the meeting summary includes links to the presentations. Items included a presentation from the Puget Sound Restoration Fund on bull kelp decline and restoration efforts; a Remotely Operated Vehicle storymap from the Jefferson County Seadragons; European green crab outreach materials in Spanish; and an upcoming Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) forage fish training in Neah Bay. The 2023 NWSC Conference will be held from 11/3/2023-11/4/2023 in Port Townsend. More information can be found on the NWSC website: [Northwest Straits Commission | Marine Conservation in Washington \(nwstraits.org\)](https://www.nwstraits.org/).

Project Updates

Olympia Oyster

Chris Burns said that some of the oyster shell has come in; there are four more loads to come. When the permits are in, he will start placing shell on beaches by boat over the winter. The shell will be spread by hand during lower spring tides. Rebecca Mahan has been in communication with Sasha Horst, who will be able to extend the project contract due to the permit delays.

Pigeon Guillemot

Ed Bowlby said that the protocol for the Salish Sea program is for volunteers to stay for ten weeks at their project sites, but longer if bird activity remains. This year activity has continued, so the surveys are now on week 12. He added that this is not uncommon, and other sites in the region still have activity as well.

Education and Outreach: Coasters

Ann Soule said that the coaster shipment arrived, and they are ready to distribute. There were 2500 copies of three different designs. Places that have been happy to receive them include Salty Girls, the Sequim BarHop, the Department of Community Development, the Port Angeles Yacht Club, and the Port Angeles Library. Ideas for more places included other restaurants, the Surfrider Chapter Meeting, and farmer's markets.

Education and Outreach: New Displays

Ann Soule gave an update from the Educational Display Subcommittee. *Project leads, please submit project information for poster development by the graphic artist, including: project name; a one- to two-

sentence project synopsis that describes the type of field work involved, why the CC MRC is doing the project, and who benefits; a one- to two-sentence summary of project results, duration of the project, and how the results are being used; and photos with suggested captions. This information is due by 8/30/23. *Ann added that she would look into the possibility of co-hosting a space at Crab Fest with another organization.

Forage Fish

Tim Cochnauer said there was an error with submitting July's data and the physical data from that month is gone. There were no eggs at Elwha Beach or Ediz Hook for August, but Cline Spit had too many to count. Tim is trying to narrow down common denominators between the beaches where eggs are found; they all seem to be in isolated bays.

Elwha Beach Stewardship

Helle Andersen was not present for an update, but the project proposal is going to be rewritten. Rebecca Mahan will be meeting with Helle and Sasha Horst to rework the project.

Kelp Surveys

Alan Clark reported an extraordinarily active year in the Strait due to wind and waves. So far, the survey team has sampled part of Freshwater Bay; the small kelp beds were unreachable due to large swells. Clallam Bay had six-foot swells and was not sampled. Low tides around the end of the month should allow for more survey dates. Jeff Whitty suggested that the big kelp bed at Observatory Point might be the highest priority, but if only half of the bed could be surveyed at a time, the team should try to match the tides on the survey days for consistency.

Biotoxins: Shellfish

Bob Vreeland collected samples from Pillar Point on 8/2/23 and 8/16/30 and will sample again on 8/30/23. Many of the Strait beaches are closed to at least some harvesting, so maps should be checked prior to clamming.

Biotoxins: Sound Toxins

Nancy Stephanz said that the Sound Toxins survey team has identified phytoplankton that can cause diuretic shellfish poisoning each week; this week they thought they identified phytoplankton that can cause paralytic shellfish poisoning but are waiting for the sample to be confirmed. More slides and another microscope are needed. The team samples every Monday.

Good of the Order

Mike Doherty announced an article on the sports page of the Peninsula Daily News about a new blob forming. Discussion followed on impacts from climate change. Ann Soule suggested more brainstorming on education and outreach possibilities for later in the fall or winter. Mike noted that the Department of Ecology was holding a public review of the oil spill and wildlife rescue system; comments close on 9/9/23. *Ed Bowlby offered to respond; Rebecca Mahan sent out the information on 8/7/23. Rebecca said that CoastSavers' Coordinator Megan Juran would like to present to the CC MRC at the September meeting about an adopt-a-beach program. The group suggested that she present at the October CC MRC meeting when the field season has slowed down. Tim Cochnauer recognized Bob Vreeland for his initial idea to create outreach coasters and his work as CC MRC Chair, and Alan Clark for his work as Vice Chair with handmade etched glassware.

Public Comments

There were none.

Adjournment

Chair Tim Cochnauer adjourned the meeting at 7:17 PM.

Action Items:

**Rebecca Mahan will send out a sign-up sheet for volunteers for the Dungeness River Festival.*

**Rebecca Mahan will send out a sign-up sheet for Forever Streamfest when more information is available.*

**Project leads, please submit project information for poster development by the graphic artist, including: project name; a one- to two-sentence project synopsis that describes the type of field work involved, why the CC MRC is doing the project, and who benefits; a one- to two-sentence summary of project results, duration of the project, and how the results are being used; and photos with suggested captions. This information is due by 8/30/23.*

**Ann Soule will look into the possibility of co-hosting a space at Crab Fest with another organization.*

**Ed Bowlby offered to respond to the public review of the Department of Ecology's oil spill and wildlife rescue program.*

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

September 18, 2023
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval August minutes.

5:45 Announcements

Educational Display – retractable display

Everyone mark your calendars for helping at these events:

- Dungeness River Festival September 22, 2023. Sign up sheet forthcoming.
- Forever Streamfest October 14, 2023
- Crab fest - co hosting with another entity – Ann Soule
- 2023 NWSC Conference November 3-4 2023 registration is open!

Rescue Tug – Mike Doherty and Alan Clark- update on contact w/Jefferson MRC
Review of Department of Ecology's oil spill and wildlife rescue program – Ed Bowlby

6:00 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

6:10 Project Updates

- Olympia Oyster – Chris Burns
- Pigeon Guillemot – Ed Bowlby
- Ed/Outreach – Coaster order – Ann Soule
- Ed/Outreach New Displays – Ann Soule
- Forage Fish – Tim Cochauner
- Elwha Beach stewardship – Helle Andersen
- Kelp surveys – Jeff Ward & Alan Clark
- Biotoxins – Bob Vreeland
- Sound Toxins – Nancy Stephanz

2023 Meetings

January 23

April 17

July 17

October 16

February 27

May 15

August 21

November 20

March 20

June 26

September 18

December 18

6:30 Other Updates

- Ann Stafford – Clallam MRC and Power Plant Timber Sale
- LaTrisha Suggs – Would like to propose a presentation from Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe's Jim Parson Seafood Aquaculture Presentation

6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

Clallam County DCD is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: MRC

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485?pwd=N3dMbHRyL3l5TnpKNGtVSGtWYk5VQT09>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,85314804485#,,,,*12345# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

2023 Meetings

January 23

April 17

July 17

October 16

February 27

May 15

August 21

November 20

March 20

June 26

September 18

December 18



September 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, September 18, 2023

Time: 5:30-7:00 PM

Location: Zoom hybrid meeting

Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Helle Andersen (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism Alternate), Ed Bowlby (Academic Community), Alan Clark (Community at Large; Vice Chair; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Tim Cochnauer (Community at Large; Chair), Mike Doherty (District 3), Sasha Horst (NWSC), Lyn Muench (District 2), Arnold Schouten (Development Community), Ann Stafford (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism), Justin Stapleton (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe), Nancy Stephanz (Ecology Alternate), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment), Jeff Ward (District 1)

Others present: Rebecca Mahan (CC Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator), Alisa Taylor (CC MRC Volunteer)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Rebecca Mahan noted that she had some items to discuss under Good of the Order.

Public Comment / Approval of August Minutes

Nancy Stephanz clarified a sentence under Biotoxins: Sound Toxins to say: "Nancy Stephanz said that the Sound Toxins survey team has identified *phytoplankton that can cause* diuretic shellfish poisoning each week; this week they thought they identified *phytoplankton that can cause* paralytic shellfish poisoning but are waiting for the sample to be confirmed." Jeff Ward noted that he was in attendance and should be added to the list of attendees. ***Nancy Stephanz moved to accept the minutes as amended; Arnold Schouten seconded. The August CC MRC minutes were accepted by consensus with those changes.***

Announcements

Educational Display: Retractable Display/Logo

Rebecca Mahan gave an update on the CC MRC retractable display for outreach events. The display is nearing completion; a QR code is still in development. The posters and other display elements should be finalized in time for Forever Streamfest. Alisa Taylor has volunteered to work with the CC MRC for 20 hours a week, so she will be helping with the displays as well.

Upcoming Events

- The Dungeness River Festival is scheduled for 9/22/23 from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM, with the theme of connecting people with their watersheds. Setup will be on Friday, 9/22/23, between 7:00 and 9:00 AM. *Lyn Muench, Alan Clark, Tim Cochnauer, Helle Andersen, Rebecca Mahan and Alisa Taylor volunteered to help with the set-up. The sign-up form was distributed by email.
- Forever Streamfest is scheduled for 10/14/23 at Peninsula College. *Ann Soule offered to take the lead on this event. The sign-up form is forthcoming.

- Crab Fest is scheduled from 10/6/23-10/8/23. Ann Soule has arranged to cohost a table with Feiro Marine Life Center.
- The 2023 NWSC Conference in Port Townsend will be held on 11/3/23 and 11/4/23. Registration is open with a deadline of 10/02/23. Rebecca Mahan mentioned that accommodations are being booked very quickly. Photos are needed for the conference slideshow. The CC MRC has also agreed to bring festival displays. *Ann Soule volunteered to prepare a 10–15-minute talk on the development and production of the outreach coasters. Sasha Horst added that attending for one of the two days was an option, and that Caitlyn Blair with the NWSC was available to help if anyone was having trouble finding accommodations.

Rescue Tug Update

*Alan Clark will coordinate with Mike Doherty as he is unable to help with this event. Mike was on the call for the CC MRC meeting, but was not able to give an update due to technical issues.

Department of Ecology's Oil Spill and Wildlife Rescue Program

Ed Bowlby has been out of the country until this week, so he has been unable to follow up on the program. *He and Rebecca Mahan will find out the deadline for responding.

Ediz Hook Revegetation Project

Helle Andersen led discussion on NWSC reviewer comments on the Ediz Hook Revegetation Project; they raised concerns about the planting plan, and about it being a pass-through project. Helle's response was that this project would follow the format of the Olympia Oyster Project, partnering with a local tribe to place plants instead of oysters and oyster shells. Another concern from the NWSC was that they be able to identify a particular area of the project as a CC MRC outcome. Allyce Miller designed a map showing the specific planting areas and has been developing a more detailed planting plan. The plan includes managing for invasive species twice a year, tracking survival of planted species, and planting species that were conducive to not being watered. The NWSC has agreed to fund the project with these updates but requested that the CC MRC vote on whether to go forward with the project or not. Right now, there is \$3000 set aside for each year of the project to purchase plants; the project would continue for two years. **Bob Vreeland moved to approve the project; Ed Bowlby seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

NWSC Update

Alan Clark gave an update on NWSC news. The last meeting was held on 8/25/23. Updates included a new annual award in honor of Senator Murray and her work in the Salish Sea, which Alan is helping with via a subcommittee, and the upcoming 2023 NWSC Conference from 11/3/2023-11/4/2023 in Port Townsend and available funding for travel and lodging costs. NWSC staff are in the process of hiring a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Consultant, and are looking for topic suggestions for the Speed Date with a Scientist Program; topics can be sent to Dana Oster at oster@northweststraits.org. Finally, the NWSC has approved the 2023-2025 MRC grant proposals, which have a start date of 10/1/23. Bob Vreeland suggested naming the next orca whale baby after Senator Murray. More information can be found on the NWSC website: [Northwest Straits Commission | Marine Conservation in Washington \(nwstraits.org\)](https://www.nwstraits.org/).

Project Updates

Olympia Oyster

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe representatives were not present for an update.

Pigeon Guillemot

Ed Bowlby said that the program had been completed. He and Mary Sue Brancato were entering the field data from the project forms into the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) database. There were late season observations that extended the project period.

Education and Outreach: Coaster Distribution

Rebecca Mahan gave an update for Ann Soule. There were only five packages of each coaster design left to distribute. There were remaining funds in the budget for additional coasters to be ordered if the CC MRC wished; the funding will expire at the end of the month. Rebecca added that Alisa Taylor had offered to help create new designs for the next funding round. The coasters have been very well received in the community. ***Ed Bowlby moved to approve the funding to order 2,500 of each of the three coaster designs, which will come to around \$2,100; Alan Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

Education and Outreach: New Displays

Rebecca Mahan said they appreciated the feedback from project leads regarding project details. Alisa Taylor will be helping to put the information together for poster development. Ann Soule would like to get a subcommittee together to brainstorm a catchy phrase for the coasters.

Forage Fish

Tim Cochnauer said that they would conduct the August sampling next week. He took the eggs to Port Townsend during the Wooden Boat Festival, but WDFW was not working during those days.

Elwha Beach Stewardship

Helle Andersen conducted 11 surveys between 6/12/23 and 9/7/23 in three different ways: randomly, tidal-related, and when she was helping with Forage Fish surveys. The busiest times observed have been during surf tides. Local surfers and field trip leaders were very supportive of keeping the portable toilets.

Kelp Surveys

Alan Clark reported that the kelp surveys were completed. Due to this year's high wind and wave action, it took two attempts to finish the Freshwater Bay surveys, and Clallam Bay was done on the last possible day. A new surveyor participated this year. Alisa Taylor shared photos of the GIS maps of the kelp beds: at Freshwater Bay, the large kelp bed had increased, and the small bed was about the same size as last year; the Clallam Bay bed was probably about the same size as last year, but part of it was not surveyed this year due to safety concerns over high waves. She said that overall, the kelp looked very healthy. Alan added that several orcas and calves were sighted this year. The group discussed kelp farming, and a new kelp project off of Morse Creek.

Biotoxins: Shellfish

Bob Vreeland announced that all Strait beaches from Cape Flattery to the Jefferson County line were closed to all species. He has one more survey to conduct next week; high tides are making sampling times difficult.

Biotoxins: Sound Toxins

Nancy Stephanz said that the Sound Toxins survey team identified three different species that can produce toxins, but not as many as there were two weeks ago. Surveys will continue weekly through October, and then switch to every two weeks.

Other Updates

CC MRC and the Power Plant Timber Sale

Ann Stafford led discussion on revising the CC MRC Strategic Plan, their decision-making process, and the possibility of the CC MRC writing a formal letter to the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) regarding the Power Plant Timber Sale. She advocated for taking a stand against the timber sale, arguing that it was a relatively small amount of revenue for the County when compared to the larger costs they will collectively incur. The group discussed carbon offset credits, school and hospital funding, and how to best fulfill the role the CC MRC has of advising the BoCC. Jeff Ward emphasized the importance of articulating any position with sound science, and the responsibility the CC MRC had to maintain their credibility. Tim Cochnauer pointed out that the main way issues like this timber sale are impacted is through public voting. Ann proposed two ideas: 1: writing a letter to the BoCC listing the main concerns of the CC MRC; and 2: asking whether it would be possible to get the BoCC to commit to objecting to the timber sale if the community could raise the funds to replace the revenue that would come from it. Discussion followed without consensus on the letter. Bob Vreeland voiced strong support of the established science regarding the damage to ecosystems from logging in watershed areas, but did not believe that raising the funds in the community would be feasible. Nancy Stephanz suggested asking the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to present locally about the timber sale and how it was selected, and as a follow-up asking the DNR if there were specific things that the CC MRC could help measure that would influence similar future decisions. Helle Andersen suggested reaching out to Jefferson County for their advice since they have had some success with similar efforts. Ann offered to reach out to DNR about a possible presentation, and asked if the CC MRC could commit to educating themselves and getting the data they needed for future endeavors. Rebecca Mahan added that in the letter she distributed from Mark Ozias, there were links to several presentations from DNR. She recommended viewing those presentations first. The group agreed that that would be the best first step. Ed Bowlby added that one of the important jobs of the MRC was to provide a public forum for these types of issues.

Seafood Aquaculture

LaTrisha Suggs proposed a presentation on seafood aquaculture from Jim Parsons with the Northwest Aquaculture Alliance and the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe. Rebecca Mahan said she had been in touch with LaTrisha and Jim about this, and Jim said he would be happy to present. Ed Bowlby noted that aquaculture was a controversial topic, so several speakers should participate. Lyn Muench strongly advocated for Jim Parsons to present first the CC MRC before arranging a public forum for this, or any controversial topic.

Public Presentation Discussion

At the August CC MRC Meeting, the idea of hosting or cohosting a public presentation on a topic such as the warm ocean blob came up. *Ed Bowlby volunteered to help coordinate presentations. Ann Stafford appreciated the substantial discussion during the meeting and recommended moving any big discussion items up in the agenda for future meetings.

Good of the Order

Rebecca Mahan announced that CoastSavers coordinator Megan Juran would be presenting to the CC MRC at their October meeting about working together on future beach cleanups. Rebecca also sent out emails about quarterly reports, and *will send out emails tomorrow about Riverfest and who has volunteered. Ed Bowlby proposed that the CC MRC, along with Olympic Climate Action, co-sponsor a talk from Ian Miller on sea level rise and climate change in October. *Tim Cochauer said he would meet with Ed to work out the details. Rebecca reminded the group to respond to her email about the Maritime Washington National Heritage event in October.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Chair Tim Cochnauer adjourned the meeting at 7:28 PM.

Action Items:

****Lyn Muench, Alan Clark, Tim Cochnauer, Helle Andersen, Rebecca Mahan and Alisa Taylor volunteered to help with the set-up for the Dungeness River Festival.***

****Ann Soule offered to take the lead on the Forever Streamfest event.***

****Ann Soule volunteered to prepare a 10–15-minute talk for the NWSC Conference on the development and production of the outreach coasters.***

****Alan Clark will coordinate with Mike Doherty as he is unable to help with the Rescue Tug Panel.***

****Ed Bowlby and Rebecca Mahan will find out the deadline for responding about the Department of Ecology's Oil Spill and Wildlife Rescue Program.***

****Ed Bowlby volunteered to help coordinate presentations.***

****Rebecca Mahan will send out emails tomorrow about Riverfest and who has volunteered.***

****Tim Cochauer said he would meet with Ed Bowlby to work out the details about co-sponsoring a talk from Ian Miller.***

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

October 16, 2023
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda*

**See proposed alternative agenda, below*

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval September minutes.

5:45 Coastsavers presentations: Megan Juran CoastSavers Coordinator will present *CoastSavers-dedicated to keeping the state's beaches clean of marine debris.*

6:00 Announcements

- Orca Day Beach Clean-up – October 26th 10am-12pm West Elwha/Place Rd levee
- 2023 NWSC Conference November 3-4 2023 , Registration closed

6:00 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

6:10 Field Project Updates

- Olympia Oyster – Chris Burns
- Pigeon Guillemot – Ed Bowlby
- Ed/Outreach – Coaster order and next three species – Ann Soule
- Ed/Outreach New Displays – Ann Soule
- Retractable display and project posters – RECEIVED
- Ed/Outreach – Recent festivals – Rebecca and others
- Forage Fish – Tim Cochnauer
- Elwha Beach Stewardship – Helle Andersen
- Kelp surveys – Jeff Ward & Alan Clark
- Shellfish Biotoxins – Bob Vreeland
- Sound Toxins – Nancy Stephanz

6:30 Other Updates

- Advisory Role:
 - Process for selecting a topic to pursue – Exec Group proposal.

2023 Meetings

January 23	April 17	July 17	October 16
February 27	May 15	August 21	November 20
March 20	June 26	September 18	December 18

- Clallam MRC and Power Plant Timber Sale – Ann Stafford
- Rescue Tug – Mike Doherty - update on contact w/ Jefferson MRC or San Juan MRC
- Review of Department of Ecology’s oil spill and wildlife rescue program – Ed Bowlby
- Future Presentations:
 - The Blob (for public) – Ed Bowlby and others
 - Aquaculture (MRC only at first) LaTrisha Suggs – Would like to propose Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe’s Jim Parson Seafood Aquaculture Presentation

6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

Clallam County DCD is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: MRC

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485?pwd=N3dMbHRyL3l5TnpKNGtVSGtWYk5VQT09>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,85314804485#,,,,*12345# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

2023 Meetings

January 23	April 17	July 17	October 16
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Proposed Alternative Agenda for Oct. 16, 2023

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval September minutes.

5:45 Coastsavers presentations: Megan Juran CoastSavers Coordinator will present *CoastSavers-dedicated to keeping the state's beaches clean of marine debris.*

6:00 Announcements

- Orca Day Beach Clean-up – October 26th 10am-12pm West Elwha/Place Rd levee
- 2023 NWSC Conference November 3-4 2023 , Registration closed

6:05 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

6:10 Advisory Role

- Proposed subcommittee to develop process for selecting a topic to pursue – Exec Group proposal
- Clallam MRC and Power Plant Timber Sale – Ann Stafford

6:20 Field Project Updates

- Olympia Oyster – Chris Burns
- Pigeon Guillemot – Ed Bowlby
- Forage Fish – Tim Cochnauer
- Elwha Beach Stewardship – Helle Andersen
- Kelp surveys – Jeff Ward & Alan Clark
- Shellfish Biotoxins – Bob Vreeland
- Sound Toxins – Nancy Stephanz

6:30 Education/Outreach

- Coaster order and next three species – Ann Soule
- New Displays – Ann Soule
 - Retractable display and project posters – RECEIVED
- Recent festivals – Rebecca and others
- Future Presentations:
 - The Blob (for public) – Ed Bowlby and others
 - Aquaculture (MRC only at first) LaTrisha Suggs – Would like to propose Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe's Jim Parson Seafood Aquaculture Presentation

6:40 Other Updates/New Topics

- Rescue Tug – Mike Doherty - update on contact w/ Jefferson MRC or San Juan MRC
- Review of Department of Ecology's oil spill and wildlife rescue program – Ed Bowlby

2023 Meetings

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6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

2023 Meetings

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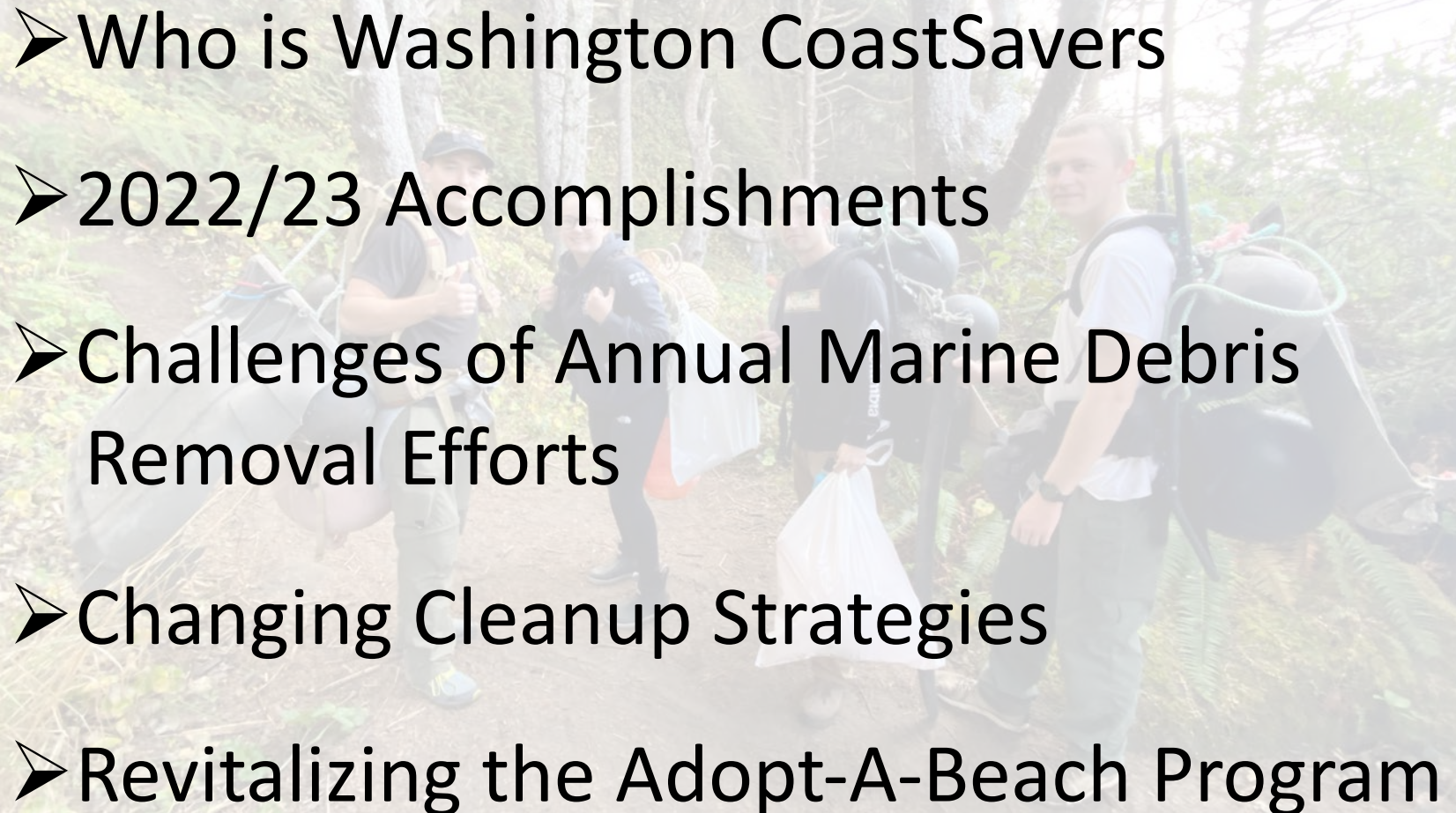
December 18

Washington CoastSavers



Coordinating Beach Cleanups Since 2007

Washington CoastSavers

- Who is Washington CoastSavers
 - 2022/23 Accomplishments
 - Challenges of Annual Marine Debris Removal Efforts
 - Changing Cleanup Strategies
 - Revitalizing the Adopt-A-Beach Program
- 
- A group of people, including children and adults, are participating in a marine debris removal effort. They are walking along a dirt path in a wooded area, carrying gear and bags. One person is holding a large white bag, and another is carrying a large black bag. The background shows trees and foliage.

Washington CoastSavers

Washington CoastSavers, a program of the **Washington Clean Coast Alliance**, was formed in 2007 to coordinate marine debris cleanup efforts that agencies, organizations & individuals had been conducting independently along Washington's Pacific Coast as far back as 1971.

These efforts include the work of:

- **Pacific Northwest Four Wheel Drive Association**
Who just completed their 51st 'Shore Patrol' this fall in Ocean Shores
- **Jan Klippert**
Who founded the Olympic Coast Cleanup to honor Earth Day in 2000
- **Grassroots Garbage Gang**
Who have been cleaning the Long Beach Peninsula since 2001

Washington CoastSavers

Washington CoastSavers is an alliance of partners & volunteers dedicated to keeping the state's beaches clean of marine debris through coordinated beach cleanups, education, & prevention.



Washington CoastSavers

Steering Committee Members Include:

- Agencies: Washington State Parks*, & Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary*
- Organizations: Washington Surfrider*, Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association, Lions Clubs International*, Grassroots Garbage Gang*, Discover Your Northwest

Annual Cleanup Registration Sites Supported By:

- Tribal Nations: Hoh Tribe, Makah Tribe, Quileute Tribe & Quinault Indian Nation
- Organizations: Pacific Northwest Four Wheel Drive Association, Grassroots Garbage Gang, Port Townsend Marine Science Center, Olympic Peninsula Chief Petty Officer Association of the USGC, & Dedicated Volunteers

* **Agencies and Organizations that serve in both capacities**

Washington CoastSavers



**National
Marine
Sanctuary
Foundation**

Current fiscal sponsors



NOAA
MARINE DEBRIS
PROGRAM

<https://MarineDebris.noaa.gov>

Current grant covers removal & recycling efforts (until Dec 23)

Washington CoastSavers

April Washington Coast Earth Day Cleanup

2022-586 Volunteers-15,072 lbs

2023-783 Volunteers-14,350 lbs

5th of July Central & South Coast Cleanup

2023-715 Volunteers-35,267 lbs Firework Debris

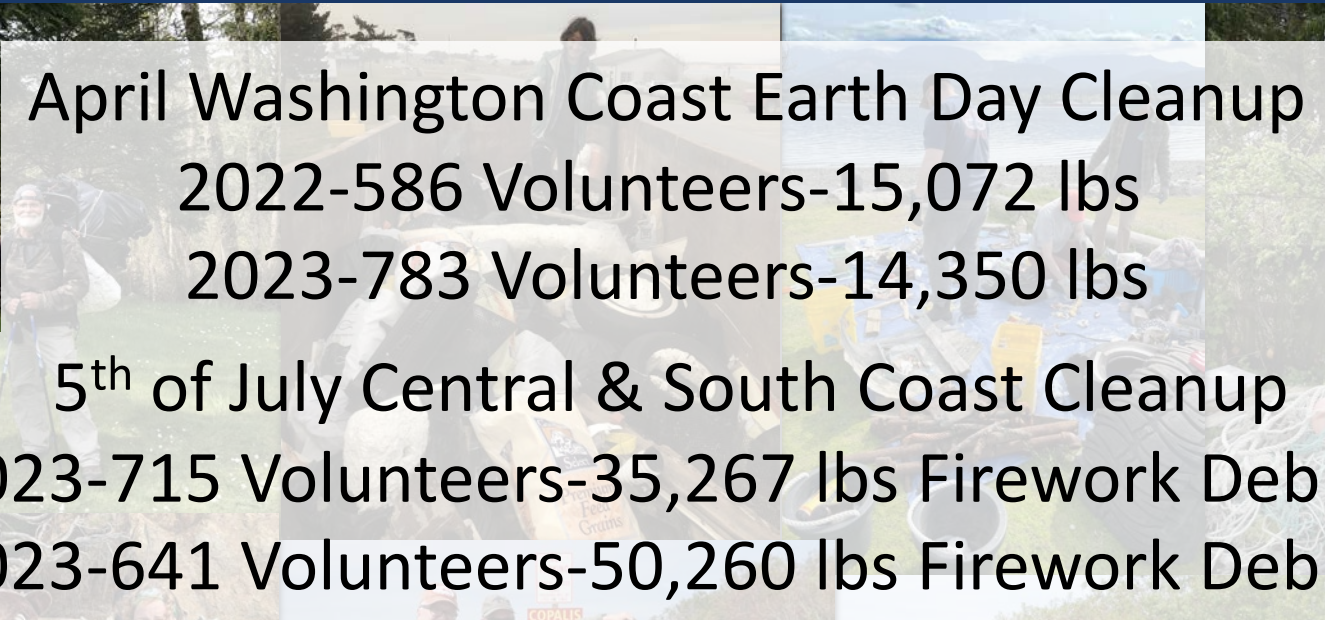
2023-641 Volunteers-50,260 lbs Firework Debris

September International Coastal Cleanup

2022-453 Volunteers-9,138 lbs

2023-499 Volunteers-over 2,000 lbs

3,677 Volunteers Removed 126,087 lbs or over 63 tons!



Washington CoastSavers

Challenges of Annual Events

- Weather
- Changes in Participation
- Meeting the Need



Clallam County Historical Beach Cleanup Locations

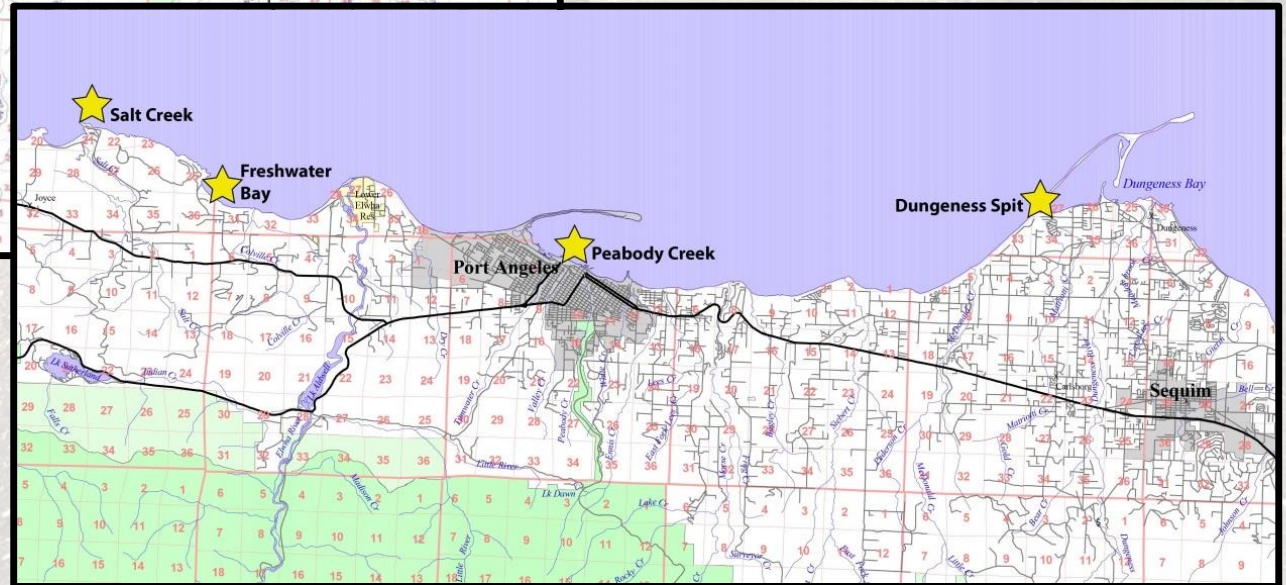


Bullman Beach → Clallam Bay
-Actively supported by Lions Clubs Int'l

Pillar Point → Port Angeles
-Removed from Annual Efforts

Ediz Hook → USCG Petty Officers Assn.

Dungeness Spit → Citizen Volunteer



Washington CoastSavers



Strait Beaches
Taken Off
Registration,
But Still In Need

2023 WCC
22 Volunteers
359 lbs. Removed

Washington CoastSavers

Now you can
ADOPT
A
Clallam County
BEACH



Is there a beach that you visit every chance you get?

Can you or your small group commit to cleaning a beach at least three times a year?

- April for the Washington Coast Cleanup
- September for the International Coastal Cleanup
- any other date of your choice

There are multiple beaches within Clallam County that are available to adopt. Contact us for more details.

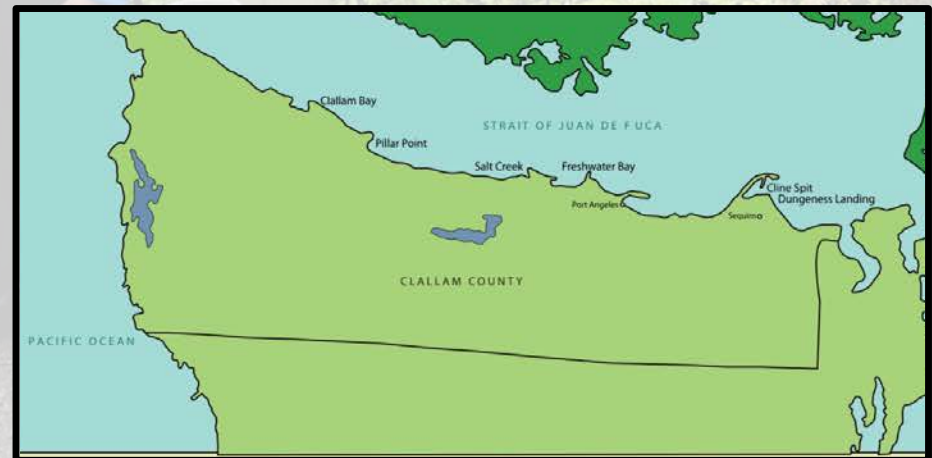
For more information contact Jon Schmidt at jon@coastsavers.org or call (360) 460-7532.

Washington CoastSavers is an alliance of partners and volunteers dedicated to keeping the state's beaches clean of marine debris through coordinated beach cleanups, education and prevention.

Washington
CoastSavers



Revitalizing the Adopt-A-Beach Program



Washington CoastSavers

Pivoting to Meet the Needs of the Beach



Grassroots Garbage Gang
Long Beach Peninsula



Supported by the
Coastal Interpretive Center,
Surfrider & Local Groups

Washington CoastSavers

Adopt-A-Beach Program Support Needs

- Signage
- Disposal
- Support/Promotion



Washington CoastSavers



Unity is strength...When there is teamwork & collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.

Mattie Stepanek

Thank You!

Megan Juran, Coordinator
Coordinator@CoastSavers.org

www.CoastSavers.org





October 2023 Meeting Draft Minutes

Date: Monday, October 16, 2023

Time: 5:30-7:20 PM

Location: Zoom hybrid meeting

Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Helle Andersen (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism Alternate), Ed Bowlby (Academic Community), Chris Burns (Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe Alternate), Alan Clark (Community at Large; Vice Chair; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Tim Cochnauer (Community at Large; Chair), Mike Doherty (District 3), Allyce Miller (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe), Lyn Muench (District 2), Arnold Schouten (Development Community), Ann Soule (District 2), Ann Stafford (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment), Jeff Ward (District 1)

Others present: Rebekah Brooks (Rebekah Brooks Contracting), Cathy Lear (CC), Rebecca Mahan (CC Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator), Megan Juran (Washington CoastSavers), Amelia Kalagher (Jefferson County MRC Intern), Leah Robison (NWSC), Alisa Taylor (CC MRC Volunteer)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Lyn Muench moved to approve the Alternative Agenda; Ann Soule seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment / Approval of September Minutes

There were no public comments. ***Bob Vreeland moved to approve the September CC MRC minutes, with several clarifications from Ann Soule. Mike Doherty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.***

CoastSavers Presentation

CoastSavers Coordinator Megan Juran presented on Washington CoastSavers, a program of the Washington Clean Coast Alliance that has been dedicated to keeping the state’s beaches clean of marine debris since 2007. Their Steering Committee members include Washington State Parks, the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, Washington Surfrider, Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association, Lions Club International, the Grassroots Garbage Gang, and Discover Your Northwest. Annual cleanup registration sites are supported by tribal nations and local organizations. On the April 2023 Washington Coast Earth Day Cleanup, 783 volunteers collected 14,350 pounds of debris; on the 5th of July 2023 Central and South Coast Cleanup, 641 volunteers collected 50,260 pounds of firework debris; and on the September 2023 International Coastal Cleanup, 499 volunteers collected over 2,000 pounds of debris.

Challenges of annual events include adverse weather conditions, changes in participation, and being able to respond adequately to the needs of various locations. To try to have a more constant presence on Strait beaches, CoastSavers was starting a program that allows locals to adopt a beach in Clallam County so those beaches can be responded to when the need arises. Adopt a Beach program support needs include signage, disposal, and promotion. Megan explained that CoastSavers was still in the beginning phase of figuring out what the Adopt a Beach program will look like, but she anticipated that commitment would involve going out at annual cleanup times and when big storm events occur, responding to local concerns and reports, and helping to haul debris. The group discussed trash disposal, protocols for hazardous waste (Dept of Ecology is involved), and recycling options. Ed Bowlby suggested a partnership with the University of Washington's Coastal Observation and Seabird Survey Team.

Announcements

- Orca Day Beach Cleanup: Rebecca Mahan announced that the Clallam Conservation District (CCD) reached out to her about a beach cleanup at the West Elwha/Place Road Levee on 10/26 from 10 AM to 12 PM. That is also the same day as the next forage fish sampling, so the CCD asked the CC MRC to give a presentation on the importance of forage fish.
- 2023 NWSC Conference: The conference is scheduled for 11/3-11/4 in Port Townsend. Registration is now closed. Lyn Muench asked whether any sessions could still be attended; *Leah Robison said she would confirm this, but that space had been tight. *Rebecca will put together a list of attendees that includes which days people will be attending.

NWSC Update

Alan Clark gave an update on NWSC news. The last meeting was held in person on 9/29/23. Updates included remarks from Commissioner Melanie Bacon, who is working with the Island County MRC on climate change issues; an associated white paper that *Alan will send to Rebecca for distribution; and decision for the expansion of the Roberts Bank Terminal in British Columbia despite studies showing negative impacts. More information can be found on the NWSC website: [Northwest Straits Commission | Marine Conservation in Washington \(nwstraits.org\)](https://www.nwstraits.org/).

Advisory Role

- Ann Soule explained that in response to the discussion during the September CC MRC meeting regarding the response of the Committee to the Elwha Power Plant timber sale, a subcommittee would be formed to develop a process for similar decisions that would be consistent with CC MRC bylaws and tribal guidance. Jeff Ward has created a five-step proposal and was willing to be on the subcommittee. The Exec recommended subcommittee representation from the county, cities, tribes, and the development community. *Volunteers included Jeff Ward (for county), Chris Burns (for tribes), and Alan Clark (NWSC). *Ann will send out an overview of the Exec's vision of the subcommittee for distribution.
- Clallam MRC and Power Plant Timber Sale: Ann Stafford led discussion on reconsidering a letter in opposition to the Elwha Power Plant timber sale based on the priority of climate change for the CC MRC. Discussion followed on economic and climate impacts, the role of the CC MRC as an advisory body and in terms of community engagement, and the need for a consistent process the CC MRC should follow and include in future strategic plans.

Field Project Updates

Olympia Oyster

Chris Burns reported that the permits were finally in place. He has acquired 2,000 bags of oyster shell, with 2,000 more bags coming. The restriction of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) permit will not allow the shell to be placed until 7/1/24, but Chris is going to look into whether the timeline can be moved up.

Pigeon Guillemot

Ed Bowlby said that Mary Sue Brancato finished entering the field data from the project forms into the WDFW database. Ed is wrapping up the QA/QC for 2023 data.

Forage Fish

Tim Cochnauer said that monthly sampling was ongoing. He was interested to see the results for Cline Spit; his guess was that it was three times higher than they had ever seen there.

Elwha Beach Stewardship

Helle Andersen was continuing the beach surveys. She reached out to four local educators, who have all written letters in support of keeping the portable toilets.

Kelp Surveys

Alan Clark announced that Alisa Taylor reformatted the kelp page on the CC MRC website. There will be a kelp session at the NWSC Conference. The Puget Sound Restoration Fund has also conducted surveys; Alan would like to combine all of the data.

Shellfish Biotoxins

Bob Vreeland did his last survey at Pillar Point on 9/27. The surveys will stop for the winter due to high tides. Chris Burns reported Strait closures on shellfish and *offered to help with data entry and access.

Sound Toxins

Nancy Stephanz was not present for an update.

Education/Outreach

Coasters

Ann Soule said that more coasters were available for distribution. She was working with Alisa Taylor to develop three more designs for 2024. Megan Juran commented from a citizen's perspective that the coasters were very cool.

New Displays

Ann Soule noted that the new retractable display looked fantastic. Three of the project posters were completed for kelp, forage fish, and Olympia oysters; there are three more posters still to come.

Recent Festivals

Rebecca Mahan reported that the Dungeness River Festival was well attended with over 800 students and teachers and was a lot of fun. Stream Fest was last weekend; the CC MRC booth had 65-75 visitors.

Future Presentations

- The Blob (for public): Ed Bowlby said he needed some help to put the presentation together. He announced an upcoming presentation from Ian Miller on sea level rise; *he will forward the information to Rebecca Mahan for distribution.

- Aquaculture (CC MRC only at first): Rebecca Mahan has been in touch with Jim Parsons with the Northwest Aquaculture Alliance, who said he would be happy to present. The group preferred a January presentation if possible.

Other Updates/New Topics

Maritime Heritage Program

Mike Doherty said that the Maritime Heritage Program gave presentations in Port Angeles and Forks. They were looking for partners and more participation; Mike distributed an informative pamphlet.

Rescue Tug

Analyses results showed that rescue tugs avoid oil spill risks. Seven sites were studied, and Roche Harbor would impact the most risk. A bill in the legislature is forthcoming.

Review of Department of Ecology's Oil Spill and Wildlife Rescue Program

Ed Bowlby was unable to make it to the in-person training but suggested considering jointly sponsoring a training for local MRCs. *Rebecca Mahan said she would find out when the trainer was available and if the Jefferson County MRC would be interested; there is some funding available for two trainings per year. *Ed Bowlby and Chris Burns offered to help.

Good of the Order

- Rebecca Mahan announced that the Board of County Commissioners approved a part-time assistant for the CC MRC, which could be ready to post by next week.
- The group asked Amelia Kalagher if the Jefferson County MRC would be interested in a joint meeting on occasion.
- Tim Cochnauer said there was a city in Denmark that burned trash for power, which was so successful that they needed to bring garbage in from outside the city.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Chair Tim Cochnauer adjourned the meeting at 7:22 PM.

Action Items:

****Leah Robison said she would confirm session attendance at the NWSC Conference.***

****Rebecca Mahan will put together a list of NWSC Conference attendees that includes which days people will be attending.***

****Alan Clark will send a climate change white paper to Rebecca Mahan for distribution.***

****Jeff Ward, Chris Burns, and Alan Clark volunteered to participate in the Advisory Role subcommittee.***

****Ann Soule will send out an overview of the Advisory Role subcommittee for distribution to members.***

****Chris Burns offered to help with shellfish biotoxin data entry and access.***

****Ed Bowlby will forward the information on Ian Miller's presentation to Rebecca Mahan for distribution.***

****Rebecca Mahan said she would find out when the oil spill trainer was available and if the Jefferson County MRC would be interested.***

****Ed Bowlby and Chris Burns offered to help with an oil spill training event.***

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

November 20, 2023
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval October minutes.

5:45 Announcements

- Oiled Wildlife First Response / 24hr HAZWOPER February 13th & 14th 2024 at Red Cedar Hall, Blyn, WA. Registration information to follow.
- Annual Workplan in draft – send comments to Rebecca Mahan

5:50 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

- 2023 NWSC Conference November 3-4 2023 Attendee takeaways (2 minutes each)

6:15 Advisory Role

- Subcommittee status – Tim Cochnauer and Ann Soule

6:25 Field Project Updates

- *Olympia Oyster – Chris Burns*
- *Pigeon Guillemot – Ed Bowlby*
- *Forage Fish – Tim Cochnauer*
- *Elwha Beach Stewardship – Helle Andersen*
- *Kelp surveys – Jeff Ward & Alan Clark*
- *Shellfish Biotoxins – Bob Vreeland*
- *Sound Toxins – Nancy Stephanz*
- *Pinto Abalone – Jeff Ward & Alan Clark*

2023 Meetings

January 23	April 17	July 17	October 16
February 27	May 15	August 21	November 20
March 20	June 26	September 18	December 18

6:35 Education/Outreach

- Coasters – Ann Soule
- New Displays – Ann Soule
 - Project posters – hope to have other MRC projects to graphic designer in January.
- Future Presentations:
 - The Blob (for public) – Ed Bowlby and others - need a Champion to form a subcommittee
 - Aquaculture (MRC only at first) LaTrisha Suggs – Proposes to have Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe’s Jim Parsons, Aquaculture Manager Present. (tentatively scheduled for January 2024)
 - Ann Stafford – Proposes to have Dr. Catherine Copass (Olympic Forest Coalition) give presentation about Clallam County forest stands, their ecological connections, impact on climate change

6:40 Other Updates/New Topics

- Update on CMRC Part-time Administrative Assistant – Rebecca Mahan
- Update Orca Day Beach Clean-up – Rebecca Mahan
- Rescue Tug letter – Mike Doherty
- Review of Department of Ecology’s oil spill and wildlife rescue program – Ed Bowlby and Chris Burns - Still open?
- Adopt a beach for CoastSavers?
- Marine Renewable Energy Update – Lance Vail

6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

Clallam County DCD is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: MRC

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485?pwd=N3dMbHRyL3l5TnpKNGtVSGtWYk5VQT09>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,85314804485#,,,,*12345# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

2023 Meetings

January 23	April 17	July 17	October 16
February 27	May 15	August 21	November 20
March 20	June 26	September 18	December 18



November 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, November 20, 2023

Time: 5:30-7:16 PM

Location: Zoom hybrid meeting

Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Helle Andersen (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism Alternate), Ed Bowlby (Academic Community), Mike Doherty (District 3), Robert Knapp (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe), Arnold Schouten (Development Community), Ann Soule (District 2; Vice Chair), Ann Stafford (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism), Nancy Stephanz (Ecology Alternate), LaTrisha Suggs (Port Angeles City Council), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment), Lance Vail (District 1 Alternate), Jeff Ward (District 1)

Others present: Rich Havel (Citizen Observer), Cathy Lear (CC), Rebecca Mahan (CC Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator), Alisa Taylor (CC MRC Volunteer)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Ann Soule called the meeting to order in Tim Cochnauer's excused absence. A quorum was not present at the beginning of the meeting, so decision items were postponed until a quorum arrived.

Public Comment / Approval of October Minutes

There were no public comments. Approval of the October minutes was postponed until later in the meeting. *When a quorum was present, Nancy Stephanz moved to approve the October CC MRC minutes; Arnold Schouten seconded. Ann Soule clarified that she distributed the overview of the Exec's vision of the Advisory Role Subcommittee to the Subcommittee rather than the full Committee, but if anyone would like a copy, please let her know. The motion to accept the minutes with that change passed with all in favor.*

Announcements

- Oiled Wildlife First Response / 24hr HAZWOPER: Rebecca Mahan announced the upcoming training, scheduled for 2/13/24-2/14/24 at Red Cedar Hall in Blyn, WA. The CC MRC will sponsor the event in partnership with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe. Registration will be limited to 50 people; more information will follow.
- Annual Workplan Draft: Rebecca attached the Draft Workplan to the CC MRC meeting agenda for review. The new projects and their deliverables are still to be added. *Please send any

questions or comments to Rebecca by the end of November. The Workplan is due in January, so it will be discussed at the December CC MRC meeting.

NWSC Update

Alan Clark was not present for an update on NWSC news. CC MRC members who attended the 2023 NWSC Conference on 11/3/23-11/4/23 shared some takeaways from the event. Mike Doherty and Nancy Stephanz listed the presentations and panels on rain gardens, sea level rise, no anchor zones, storm surges, kelp, MRC projects, the history of the MRCs, and climate resiliency. Nancy was disappointed that they were unable to ask questions at the panel discussions. Ann Soule shared Tim Cochnauer's key takeaways: the need for more involvement from the County Commissioners that he thought could be facilitated through presentations from project leads; and the possibility of increasing their interaction with the County and the cities on shoreline permitting. Regarding the involvement with the County Commissioners, Rebecca Mahan added that the Commissioners are looking to the MRC for European green crab leadership; the crabs have been found recently in the Port Angeles lagoon and in Salt Creek. She advocated for working with the tribes on their trapping efforts. Ed Bowlby said that he and Mary Sue Brancato assist the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe. Jeff Ward said that in the past, the CC MRC had sponsored an intern to help the Makah Tribe with their efforts. LaTrisha Suggs suggested sponsoring a Huxley program college intern, but Rebecca has had no luck garnering student interest with past efforts. The group discussed pursuing the college intern idea further and following up on the shoreline permitting process at a following meeting. Jeff Ward added that the panel discussions were particularly beneficial, but he agreed that it would have been helpful to be able to ask questions. He thought that the project that built the remotely operated vehicle in partnership with students was an example of exactly the kind of work that the CC MRC should be doing, namely teaching and engaging students in science. Ann Stafford appreciated learning about the history of the NWSC and its involvement with the MRCs. Ann Soule noted that the session that was facilitated to encourage communication between the attendees was somewhat awkward and seemed moderately successful. No one visited the CC MRC booth to discuss how to engage with the County Commissioners, so she and Ann Stafford were unable to get information from others on that issue. Rebecca mentioned that there was a survey that was distributed and asked the attendees to fill it out. Robert Knapp noted in the Chat that the Shoreline Master Plan was required to be updated every eight years. He enjoyed being on the panel discussion but regretted that there was not more time for questions. His big takeaway was how climate change had gone from being a minor topic at the last conference three years ago, to a major focus of this conference, with temperature rise being one of the biggest impacts. More information can be found on the NWSC website: [Northwest Straits Commission | Marine Conservation in Washington \(nwstraits.org\)](https://www.nwstraits.org/).

Advisory Role

Subcommittee Status

Ann Soule reminded the group that the Advisory Role Subcommittee met to develop a process for how the CC MRC would form and provide official comments in keeping with the CC MRC bylaws and tribal guidance. *Jeff Ward, Alan Clark, Ann Stafford, LaTrisha Suggs, Chris Burns, and a representative from the NWSC were among the volunteers. Sequim City Council member Kathy Downer, and Allyce Miller with the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe are both possible Subcommittee members. *Ann Soule, Tim Cochnauer, and Rebecca Mahan agreed to help the Subcommittee get started. It is anticipated to be a three-to-four-month process. *The overview of the Exec's vision of the Advisory Role Subcommittee will be sent to the full Committee. Mike Doherty suggested establishing the rules for a federally chartered group on when they are required and allowed to give advice. A chair is still needed. Jeff Ward outlined his basic proposal, which included identifying the issue in question, seeing if members would be willing to form a subcommittee to look at the issue in depth, investigating the issue to create a synopsis,

forming a CC MRC consensus, and deciding how best to bring the issue to the attention of the public.
*Rebecca Mahan will contact the Subcommittee volunteers about a meeting date.

Field Project Updates

Olympia Oyster

Chris Burns was not present for an update. Rebecca Mahan confirmed that the permits and oyster shell had been obtained. A time extension was being filed for the project.

Pigeon Guillemot

There was no update, as this is a seasonal project and currently not active.

Forage Fish

Tim Cochnauer was not present for an update, but Helle Andersen said she would be sampling tomorrow.

Elwha Beach Stewardship

Helle Andersen reported that Cathy Lear reached out to the road department about counting cars at the Elwha Dike Road. A road counter that was installed for seven days in October recorded 378 cars during that time, which was extrapolated to almost 1700 cars visiting the beach in October. Considering that the month of October is between the busiest summer months and the quietest winter months, the engineer was comfortable extrapolating the numbers out for the year, which would mean that an estimated 19,700 vehicles come to the Elwha Beach per year. Helle's surveys have found that an average of 1.76 persons and 0.27 dogs per vehicle visit the beach, which infers that 34,690 people and more than 5300 dogs visit per year. Helle will continue her surveys through May. The engineer agreed to install the road counter for a week in the summer as well. The numbers more than justify supporting the portable restroom at the trailhead.

Kelp Surveys

There was no update, as this is a seasonal project and currently not active.

Shellfish Biotoxins

There was no update, as this is a seasonal project and currently not active.

Sound Toxins

Nancy Stephanz reported that the sampling was continuing weekly. After seeing a reduction in the poisonous species in recent weeks, three were identified again in last week's survey. Feiro Marine Center confirmed that there was a corresponding sewage spill during that survey, which seems to have been the cause.

Pinto Abalone

Jeff Ward said that the funding was confirmed for the pinto abalone surveys for 2024 and 2025. The species were overharvested almost to extinction until the recreational harvest was cancelled in 1994, but they have never recovered. The Puget Sound Restoration Fund and Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife asked for participation in surveys to identify the remnant population in hopes of future restoration efforts. There will be two diver surveys in year one in the Port Angeles area and at Pillar Point, with expanded diver surveys at each location in year two. Alan Clark and Jeff are co-leading the project.

Education/Outreach

Coasters

Ann Soule said that more coasters were available for distribution.

New Displays

Ann Soule said that there were three more posters left to finalize.

Future Presentations

- The Blob (for public): Ed Bowlby said that he had not moved on this yet but would like to work on it if someone would be interested in helping. *Ann Soule volunteered to help with a targeted subcommittee. *Rebecca Mahan will send out an email with Ed's notes about the idea with a request for more volunteers.
- Aquaculture (CC MRC only at first): Jim Parsons with the Northwest Aquaculture Alliance said he would be happy to present. The group had agreed that they would prefer a January presentation if possible. *Rebecca Mahan will contact Jim again about presenting.
- Dr. Catherine Copass (Olympic Forest Coalition): Ann Stafford suggested inviting Dr. Copass to give a presentation about Clallam County forest stands, their ecological connections, and their impact on climate change. The group discussed Dr. Copass' past presentations and various presentation scenarios. Ann Stafford was not present for this conversation, so it was agreed to circle back to this topic at the next CC MRC meeting for further discussion.

Other Updates/New Topics

Update on CMRC Part-time Administrative Assistant

Rebecca Mahan said that the new assistant position should be posted soon.

Update on Orca Day Beach Cleanup

Rebecca Mahan reported that the cleanup went very well. Over 40 pounds of debris were collected.

Rescue Tug Letter

Mike Doherty had been in touch with the project lead, who contacted the Board of Pilotage. They were still in the rule development phase, so there was no draft rule to circulate yet or to comment on. The group discussed the possibility of signing a letter drafted by the San Juan MRC, who has been involved with the issue more extensively. *Mike will contact the San Juan MRC before the next CC MRC meeting to see about signing a letter.

Review of Department of Ecology's Oil Spill and Wildlife Rescue Program

Ed Bowlby said that the comment period had closed.

Adopt a Beach for CoastSavers

CoastSavers asked the CC MRC if there was a beach that they would like to sponsor for the Adopt a Beach program. The group has not decided on whether to participate or not.

Maritime Renewable Energy Update

Lance Vail brought the group up to speed on a marine renewable energy study from the Pacific Northwest National Labs and the North Olympic Development Council, funded by the US Department of Energy. The study is looking at public outreach and involvement regarding renewable tidal and wave energy, not wind energy. Lance added that this is not a particularly good area for either of those energy sources. They are considering hybrid micro grids and various types of energy storage, but tidal

technology is not yet advanced enough for major deployment. There will be further development over the next few months. Lance said he was happy to talk about the topic further.

Good of the Order

- Nancy Stephanz said she signed up for an Oil Spill Risk Discussion on 11/30/23.
- Mike Doherty asked Helle Andersen to invite the biology professors from Peninsula College to come talk to the CC MRC about engaging student interns. LaTrisha Suggs suggested talking to the High School science teacher at Lincoln School as well because interning with the CC MRC could be a viable way for students to make up a science credit. The group decided to circle back on this topic to decide when to invite the teachers to a meeting, and who should reach out.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Ann Soule adjourned the meeting at 7:16 PM.

Action Items:

**Please send any questions or comments on the Workplan to Rebecca Mahan by the end of November.*

**Jeff Ward, Alan Clark, Ann Stafford, LaTrisha Suggs, Chris Burns, and a representative from the NWSC were among the Advisory Role Subcommittee volunteers.*

**Ann Soule, Tim Cochnauer, and Rebecca Mahan agreed to help the Subcommittee get started.*

**The overview of the Exec's vision of the Advisory Role Subcommittee will be sent to the full Committee.*

**Rebecca Mahan will contact the Subcommittee volunteers about a meeting date.*

**Ann Soule volunteered to help with a targeted subcommittee on a presentation about The Blob.*

**Rebecca Mahan will send out an email with Ed Bowlby's notes about the idea with a request for more volunteers.*

**Rebecca Mahan will contact Jim Parsons again about presenting.*

**Mike will contact the San Juan MRC before the next CC MRC meeting to see about signing a letter.*

CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

December 18, 2023
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting



Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

For more information about the MRC, please contact Rebecca Mahan at (360) 417-2322

5:30 Welcome by Chair Tim Cochnauer

5:35 Call To Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

5:40 Public Comment / Approval of Minutes

Approval November minutes.

5:45 Requests/Announcements

- Annual Workplan in draft – send comments to Rebecca Mahan
- Oiled Wildlife First Response / 24hr HAZWOPER February 13th & 14th 2024 at Red Cedar Hall, Blyn, WA. Registration information was emailed out 12/12/23 please register ASAP
- Joint meeting with Jefferson County
- Jim Parsons presentation on Jamestown Aquaculture at January meeting
- Move storage space closer to Port Angeles

5:50 NWSC Update

NWSC monthly meeting – Alan Clark

6:15 Advisory Role

- Subcommittee status – Tim Cochnauer and Ann Soule

6:25 Field Project Updates

- *Olympia Oyster – Chris Burns*
- *Pigeon Guillemot – Ed Bowlby*
- *Forage Fish – Tim Cochnauer*
- *Elwha Beach Stewardship – Helle Andersen*
- *Kelp surveys – Jeff Ward & Alan Clark*
- *Shellfish Biotoxins – Bob Vreeland*
- *Sound Toxins – Nancy Stephanz*
- *Pinto Abalone – Jeff Ward & Alan Clark*

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April 17

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6:35 Education/Outreach

- Coasters – Ann Soule
- New Displays – Ann Soule
 - Project posters – hope to have other MRC projects to graphic designer in January.
- Future Presentations:
 - The Blob (for public) – Ed Bowlby and Ann Soule
 -
 - Ann Stafford – Proposes to have Dr. Catherine Copass (Olympic Forest Coalition) give presentation about Clallam County forest stands, their ecological connections, impact on climate change

6:40 Other Updates/New Topics

- Update on CMRC Part-time Administrative Assistant – Rebecca Mahan
- Green Crab leadership
- Rescue Tug letter – Mike Doherty
- Interns in 2024
- Adopt a beach for CoastSavers?
- Presentation(s) to BOCC
- Involvement with shoreline planning/permitting

6:50 Good of the Order

6:55 Public Comment

7:00 Adjourn

Clallam County DCD is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: MRC

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85314804485?pwd=N3dMbHRyL3l5TnpKNGtVSGtWYk5VQT09>

Meeting ID: 853 1480 4485

Passcode: 12345

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,85314804485#,,,,*12345# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

2023 Meetings

January 23

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September 18

December 18

COUNTY: Clallam

Grant No: SEANWS-2023-CLCoCD-00005

PROJECT TITLE: Clallam County MRC Operations and Projects TASK NUMBER: 1-MRC Operations

T1.4

Annual Workplan

PERIOD COVERED: October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024

DATE SUBMITTED: January 14, 2024

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Clallam County Marine Resources Committee Annual Work Plan: Oct 2022 – Sep 2023

Project	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	
MRC Admin	Members	Annual Work Plan review. Website update review and suggestions on edits. Quarterly Volunteer hours (Jul, Aug, Sep) due by September 30.		Quarterly Volunteer hours (Oct, Nov, Dec) due by Jan 1.		MRC annual presentation to the BOCC.	Quarterly Volunteer hours (Jan, Feb, Mar) due by April 1.			Quarterly Volunteer hours (Apr, May, Jun) due by July 1.		Quarterly Volunteer hours (Jul, Aug, Sep) due by September 30.	
	Staff	Start of new grant year. Work on Annual Work Plan (due in Jan), presentation to the BOCC (Feb) , website updates, and Annual Report (Apr). Quarterly Reports (Progress report, Matching funds/volunteer time tracking, due October 15. NWSC Monthly Report due. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.	NWSC Monthly Report due. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.	Finalize Annual Work Plan. Complete website updates from MRC review. NWSC Monthly Report due. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.	Annual Work Plan due. Annual Report due (Apr). Quarterly Reports (Progress report, Matching funds/volunteer time tracking, due January 15. NWSC Monthly Report due. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.	Work on BOCC presentation & Annual report. NWSC Monthly Report due. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.	MRC annual presentation to the BOCC. Finalize Annual Report. NWSC Monthly Report due. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.	Annual Report due April 15. Quarterly Reports (Progress report, Matching funds/volunteer time tracking, due April 15. Website updates due. Complete any new member or MRC Member reappointment paperwork. NWSC Monthly Report due. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.	NWSC Monthly Report due. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.	MRC project presentation to the NWSC. NWSC Monthly Report due. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.	NWSC Monthly Report due. Progress Report Due. Annual Report Due. Quarterly Reports (Progress report, Matching funds/volunteer time tracking, due July 15. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.	NWSC Monthly Report due. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.	Annual Report Due. Quarterly Reports (Progress report, Matching funds/volunteer time tracking, due April 15. NWSC Monthly Report due. Monthly Clallam MRC Meeting.
	All - Regional Meetings, Trainings, Conferences		MRC Conference.	Strait ERN LIO quarterly meeting.		Strait ERN LIO quarterly meeting. NWSC/MRC staff meeting.				Strait ERN LIO quarterly meeting.			Strait ERN LIO quarterly meeting. NWSC/MRC Staff meeting
Forage Fish Monitoring	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM. Year 1 QAPP due Dec. 29.	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM	Sampling/Monitoring at Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, Elwha East and Elwha West. Enter data into IFORM. Summary reports due.	
Bull Kelp Monitoring				NWSI kelp kayak update meeting. QAPP due.			Year 1 Kelp QAPP due April 5.	Check all gear to prepare for monitoring. Hold a practice session if needed.	Monitor kelp beds and input data.	Monitor kelp beds and input data.	Monitor kelp beds and input data.	Summary report due.	
Pigeon Guillemot: Monitoring of breeding colonies							Year 1 QAPP due April 5.	volunteer training	Weekly monitoring	Summary and Training materials due Weekly monitoring	Weekly monitoring	Summary report due.	
West Elwha Beach Stewardship	Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	Summary report due. Bi-weekly filling of doggie waste bags. Surveys of beach users.	
Olympia Oyster Restoration							QAPP addendum due April 5.			Survey site	Survey site	Summary report due.	
Pinto Abalone				Copy 2024 Survey data. 2024 Pinto abalone final report due 12/31/2024			2024 QAPP Due 4/15/2024		Possible PA surveys	Possible PA surveys	Possible PA surveys		
Ediz Hook Restoration Planting			2024 Project report due 12/31/2024	Planting Plan and confirmation of site cultural assessment due 1/12/24		Meal approval form submitted prior to planting activity	Possible planting activity.	Possible Planting activity					
HAZWOPER Old Wildlife Education Training			2024 Project final report 12/31/2024	2024 Training plan and Recruitment materials. Meal approval form prior to training. 1/15/2024	February 13 & 14 HAZWOPER Old Wildlife training							Proposed HAZWOPER Old Wildlife training	



December 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, December 18, 2023

Time: 5:30-7:23 PM

Location: Zoom hybrid meeting

Minutes Prepared by Rebekah Brooks

Members present: Helle Andersen (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism Alternate), Ioana Bociu (Academic Community Alternate), Ed Bowlby (Academic Community), Chris Burns (Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe Alternate), Alan Clark (Community at Large; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Tim Cochnauer (Community at Large; Chair), Robert Knapp (Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe), Ann Soule (District 2; Vice Chair), Nancy Stephanz (Ecology Alternate), Lance Vail (District 1 Alternate), Bob Vreeland (Conservation and Environment)

Others present: Caitlyn Blair (NWSC), Rebekah Brooks (Rebekah Brooks Contracting), Cathy Lear (CC), Rebecca Mahan (CC Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator), Alisa Taylor (CC MRC Volunteer)

Call to Order / Introductions / Changes to Agenda

Tim Cochnauer called the meeting to order. A quorum was present at the beginning of the meeting. There were no changes to the agenda.

Public Comment / Approval of November Minutes

There were no public comments. *Nancy Stephanz moved to approve the November CC MRC minutes; Alan Clark seconded. Ann Soule clarified that the Advisory Role Subcommittee did not meet yet, but it was established. The motion to accept the minutes with that change passed with all in favor.*

Requests / Announcements

- Annual Workplan Draft: Rebecca Mahan gave an overview of the Draft Workplan, which is due at the beginning of the year. Several comments were contributed, including the addition of Sound Toxins, updating the year, and the addition of festivals and miscellaneous events. *Rebecca requested any additional feedback by the end of the week so that it could be incorporated.
- Oiled Wildlife First Response / 24hr HAZWOPER Training: Rebecca announced the upcoming training, scheduled for 2/13/24-2/14/24 at Red Cedar Hall in Blyn, WA. The CC MRC will sponsor the event in partnership with the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe. Registration information was emailed out on 12/12/23 and is limited to 50 attendees. The training has been advertised to

local MRCs and tribes and will go out on 12/22/23 for wider advertising. There is a 16-hour online component that must be completed prior to the training.

- Joint Meeting with Jefferson County: Rebecca reported that the Clallam and Jefferson County MRCs were working on a joint meeting for the spring, possibly to be held on an evening in March. Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe will be hosting the meeting at Red Cedar Hall. The meeting will focus on networking and may include a Tribal presentation. Ed Bowlby suggested a joint meeting with the North Pacific Coast MRC as well.
- Jamestown Aquaculture Presentation: Rebecca announced that Jamestown Seafood CEO Jim Parsons would be presenting in person at the January CC MRC Meeting. Ed Bowlby suggested hosting another presentation on the other side of the topic. Discussion followed on how the CC MRC might attempt to handle contentious issues in order to receive balanced information and make it available to others.
- Storage Space: Rebecca brought up the idea of moving the CC MRC storage space to a more central location between Sequim and Port Angeles, like the storage units next to the Safeway on Highway 101.

NWSC Update

Alan Clark gave an update on NWSC news. He said that many people were terming out of their appointments on MRCs, so there are new representatives to get to know. The External Relations Committee is working to secure funding. The last meeting was held on 12/8/23 and featured an overview of the US Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program and a presentation on the Kelp Plan Status Update and Policy Recommendations. A stewardship fund through the NWS Foundation may be a way to fund work on the Elwha River and Beach. Information on kelp restoration and monitoring was distributed to the CC MRC, detailing the 90 percent reduction in bull kelp that has been documented over the last 150 years in the South and Central Sound. More projects are being planned, including in Freshwater Bay, to monitor kelp and gather genetic material to set up a seed bank for restoration. More information can be found on the NWSC website: <https://nwstraits.org/>.

Advisory Role

Subcommittee Status

Ann Soule reported that the Advisory Role Subcommittee met last week. There are seven members on the Subcommittee with Jeff Ward and Alan Clark serving as co-chairs. Alan added that the Subcommittee is trying to come up with ways that the CC MRC can be more effective in its advisory role to the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), and in its public outreach. Comments and questions are welcome.

Field Project Updates

Olympia Oyster

Chris Burns said they had acquired 4,000 bags of shell, weighing about 93,000 pounds in total. He was in the process of lining up a barge to distribute the shell to beaches. He is planning to move the shell by barge in March, and spread the shell by hand in May, hopefully with a Washington Conservation Corps crew. Rebecca Mahan added that the grant had a no-cost extension.

Pigeon Guillemot

Ed Bowlby announced that he and Mary Sue Brancato had submitted all the project data to the database, so it was now in a forum for agencies to view the combined results.

Forage Fish

Tim Cochnauer said they planned to survey at Cline Spit on the evening of 12/22/23 because it was the perfect time to catch sand lance spawning.

Elwha Beach Stewardship

Helle Andersen reported that she was continuing to conduct surveys; people have still been using the beach regularly.

Kelp Surveys

Alan Clark met with NWSC Marine Science Coordinator Jeff Whitty and explained why the sampling had not been complete each day of the project season due to the breaking surf. They are working together to make sure that all the kelp beds are accurately covered. He added that there was a lot of new activity in kelp restoration and encouraged the CC MRC to work as much as possible with the kelp restoration group.

Shellfish Biotoxins

There was nothing new to report.

Sound Toxins

Nancy Stephanz reported that with the reduction of sunlight and increase in rain, the survey team had been seeing very few phytoplankton lately. During today's survey, they saw eight different genera, but only one or two representatives were in each slide.

Pinto Abalone

Alan Clark said that the project was approved for funding for 2024 and 2025. There will be two diver surveys in year one in the Port Angeles area and at Pillar Point, with expanded diver surveys at each location in year two. Alan Clark and Jeff Ward are co-leading the project. *Rebecca Mahan said she had some homework to pass on for the project.

Education/Outreach

Coasters

There was nothing new to report.

New Displays

Ann Soule said that she hoped to have the other CC MRC projects to the graphic designer in January for the production of the remaining project posters.

Future Presentations

- The Blob (for public): Ann Soule asked whether there was still interest in this topic because she was hearing that The Blob did not really form this year. Lance Vail discussed the latest information from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which can be found at <https://www.integratedecosystemassessment.noaa.gov/regions/california-current/california-current-marine-heatwave-tracker-blobtracker> and which indicates that this a record La Nina year. The Blob seems to be correlated to the El Nino effect. Although the science tells an interesting story, he thought it would be more effectively expressed by the CC MRC in terms of the impact of The Blob (such as in coastal fisheries) than in actual physics, as the physical side was not practical for public outreach. Ed Bowlby added that since it was not as dramatic as last year, this might be the wrong time to pursue the topic. Alan Clark noted several fisheries being impacted and suggested that the CC MRC could instead look at the drivers in variation of

populations and making people aware of how ocean conditions change things. Ann Soule pointed out that an engaging speaker would be needed, and suggested meeting with Ed to brainstorm after the holidays. Alan recommended University of Puget Sound Biology Professor Peter Hodum.

- Dr. Catherine Copass (Olympic Forest Coalition): Ann Stafford suggested inviting Dr. Copass to give a presentation about Clallam County forest stands, their ecological connections, and their impact on climate change, but Ann was not present for an update. Rebecca Mahan added that Washington Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz announced a proposal to conserve forest land, which involved cancelling the controversial Power Plant timber sale on the Elwha River. Discussion followed on the timber industry in Clallam County, economic versus environmental concerns, and how to impact policy and perspectives.

Other Updates/New Topics

Update on CMRC Part-time Administrative Assistant

Rebecca Mahan said that the County had received 11 applications for the position. Interviews will be conducted in the new year.

Green Crab Leadership

Ann Soule explained that this new item was added to the agenda after it came up at the last CC MRC meeting that the MRCs were being looked to for leadership. Rebecca Mahan said that the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, and the Makah Tribe were all trapping and could use assistance; there were also molt surveys and online training available to participate in. Ed Bowlby added that he and Mary Sue Brancato have volunteered with Sea Grant's efforts for the past couple of years. Ann Soule suggested getting regular updates from experts so that the CC MRC could answer questions from the public. Helle Andersen recommended Sea Grant for an update on current status.

Rescue Tug Letter

Mike Doherty was not present for an update.

Interns in 2024

Rebecca Mahan and Tim Cochnauer met with Peninsula College Biology Professor Barbara Blackie about a new natural resources program and the possibility of working with a student intern. They have not heard back from her yet. *Ann Soule said she would try to remind Barbara to check back.

Adopt a Beach for CoastSavers

CoastSavers asked the CC MRC if there was a beach that they would like to sponsor for the Adopt a Beach program. The group has not decided on whether to participate or not. *Tim Cochnauer will make a suggestion at the next CC MRC meeting that the Committee can vote on.

Presentation(s) to the BoCC

Tim Cochnauer led a discussion on how the CC MRC would like to increase its involvement with the BoCC. Suggestions included making the BoCC aware of the Advisory Role Subcommittee, presentations on projects, and inviting the commissioners to be on the CC MRC.

Involvement with Shoreline Planning / Permitting

Rebecca Mahan said she would be keeping the Committee updated with the County's shoreline planning. Tim Cochnauer brought up the reconstruction at the Red Lion Inn and possible runoff issues into Peabody Creek.

Good of the Order

- Alan Clark mentioned a conversation he had with Julia Parrish about the University of Washington's Coastal Observation and Seabird Survey Team and possible ways the CC MRC could support the program.
- Rebecca Mahan announced that the Development Community seat was open on the CC MRC.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Chair Tim Cochnauer adjourned the meeting at 7:23 PM.

Action Items:

**Rebecca Mahan requested any additional feedback on the Workplan by the end of the week so that it could be incorporated.*

**Rebecca Mahan said she had some homework to pass on for the Pinto Abalone project.*

**Ann Soule said she would try to remind Barbara Blackie to check back with the CC MRC about interns.*

**Tim Cochnauer will make a suggestion at the next CC MRC meeting for a beach for the Adopt a Beach Program.*