



Clallam County Marine Resources Committee

August 2024 Final Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, August 19, 2024

Time: 5:31 – 7:06

Location: Hybrid meeting, Zoom and Clallam County Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room
Minutes prepared by Amelia Kalagher

Members and Alternates Present

Alan Clark (At Large Representative; NWSC Representative), Allyce Miller (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Alternate), Ann Soule (District II Representative; Vice Chair), Christopher Burns (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Representative), Christopher Rumble (Development Community Representative), Ed Bowlby (Academic Community Representative), Helle Andersen (Marine Related Recreation and Tourism Alternate), LaTrisha Suggs (Port Angeles City Council Representative; Chair), Lyn Muench (District II Alternate), Robert Knapp (Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Alternate), Robert Vreeland (Conservation & Environmental Interests Representative)

Others Present

Rebecca Mahan (Clallam County Habitat Biologist; CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Coordinator), Amelia Kalagher (CC MRC Administrative Support), Bruce Emery (CC Director of Community Development), Jeff Whitty (Northwest Straits Commission Project Coordinator)

Welcome / Call to Order / Introductions

Chair LaTrisha Suggs called the meeting to order at 5:31. Roll was called, and a quorum was present at the beginning of the meeting.

Public Comment / Approval of June Minutes

Helle Andersen moved to approve the July CC MRC minutes; Christopher Burns seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

- **Draft annual project reports:** LaTrisha Suggs requested that project reports be delivered to Rebecca and Amelia by September 13th. A template is available from Northwest Straits Commission for each report.
- **Forever Streamfest:** September 21st
- **Dungeness River Festival:** September 27th

- *November Northwest Straits Commission conference:* All MRC members are able to attend the conference in November. Blair at the Northwest Straits Commission is the contact person for interested MRC members. The MRC will present an informational table. Caitlyn
- *Informational items:* LaTrisha reminded members about several informational items.
 - *PNNL micro-grid and Marine Renewable Energy*
 - *Project Macoma*
 - *Sequim Comp Plan Update*
 - *Port Angeles City Comp Plan update: Community Vision survey*
 - *Clallam County Comp Plan update*
 - *Clallam County Hazard Mitigation Plan update: Climate Resiliency survey*
 - *Rescue tug / oil spill response*
 - *Green crab update:* Chris Burns shared that Neil Harrington has been working to trap green crabs in Sequim Bay and Discovery Bay. No crabs have been caught in Sequim Bay in this effort.

Committee and Project Reports

Only project leads with substantive updates were asked to provide them. The following updates were provided.

- *Helle Andersen – Elwha Beach Stewardship:* A car counter was just removed from the Elwha Beach, which Helle used to estimate the average number of people per car. Two sanikans and three dog waste bag dispensers are currently available, funded by the MRC and Surfriders.
- *Chris Burns – Olympia Oysters:* Broodstock has been taken to the hatchery, and 35,000 single oyster seed was produced. Seed was set on 100 bags of shell at 5-25 oysters set per shell. These will be set out on the beach in winter, though some single seed may be grown out on the FLUPSY.
- *Alan Clark – Northwest Straits Commission:* Alan gave an update on the July 26th Northwest Straits Commission meeting in Port Townsend. The May 30th, 2025 meeting will be hosted by the Clallam MRC. *Rebecca and Alan will work with NWSC staff to organize logistics. A Commission retreat is upcoming on September 19th. The conference is upcoming in November, with registration available late August. Alan or Caitlyn Blair can answer any questions. Alan described presentations on aerial kelp monitoring, responsible shellfish harvest and Dungeness crab. Don Hunger (Northwest Straits Foundation) is looking for MRC members to join the Foundation, and would like to present to the Clallam MRC. Alan reviewed the roles of the Northwest Straits Commission versus Northwest Straits Foundation. *Alan will request a copy of the kelp aerial monitoring presentation and share with Rebecca and Amelia.
- *Ed – Pigeon Guillemot:* The pigeon guillemot season has run late and prey deliveries are still being seen, so monitoring is continuing despite the normal end-season cutoff date being past.
- *Bob – Shellfish Biotoxins:* Bob reviewed the dates of his recent and upcoming samplings, and reminded that recreational clam digging is currently closed.
- *Rebecca – Interns:* Rebecca submitted internship paperwork to Peninsula College, and the opportunity will be shared with students. *Rebecca will send out a reminder to MRC members that an alternate is needed to supervise an intern in case of Tim's absence.

- *Ann Soule – Education & Outreach:* Ann is working with Amelia, Rebecca and LaTrisha on new displays and 6 new coasters, with intent to order before the end of the grant’s fiscal year. She reviewed the six coaster ideas that are in progress.
- *Christopher Burns – Shellfish Biotoxins, continued:* Chris Burns provided recent data on toxin levels in shellfish at Pillar Point. *Chris invited Bob to send him an email requesting results of his sampling.

New Business

- *Communication with BOCC:* The group discussed areas of concern that could potentially be included on a list requested by the BOCC during the annual MRC presentation on August 5th. The following items were mentioned during discussion, with the intention to narrow the list later. Bruce Emery, CC Director of Community Development, provided significant input regarding the regulatory and advisory environment during the discussion.
 - No net loss as a policy principle
 - Shoreline armoring: seawalls, berms
 - Unpermitted shoreline armoring
 - Intersection with treaty rights
 - Shoreline design assistance, Shore Friendly program
 - Tsunami preparation
 - Growth Management Act: shoreline and climate elements
 - Shoreline management: emphasis on future development
 - Notice to title for nearshore environments
 - Kelp beds
 - Eelgrass beds
 - Tide gates
 - Culverts
 - Tires/6PPD
 - Chemical pollution
 - Forage fish
 - Reducing emissions in the face of climate change
 - Air quality
 - Water quality
 - Tanker traffic and potential accidents
 - First responder training/planning in the face of oil spills
 - Ships carrying unknown, potentially harmful substances such as mineral oil
 - Sea level rise / flooding
 - Need for education to address many of these concerns

This list will be discussed and developed further at the next meeting. *Members can send additional ideas to Rebecca in the meantime.

Discussion of next meeting date and agenda

- *LaTrisha – next meeting:* The meeting will take place on September 16th, with a presentation and demonstration from Phil Parisi on BlueBoat technology. Members should attend in person if possible to join for the demonstration at Hollywood Beach.
- *Call for new agenda items:*
 - Ann suggested returning to and refining the list of concerns for the BOCC. Bruce Emery clarified that the County Comprehensive Plan is not yet drafted, and input will be taken through approximately the end of 2024. LaTrisha requested that an MRC representative could sit in on meetings as the Comp Plan is developed, and Bruce Emery *will review the idea. Rebecca suggested that a member of the planning team could attend MRC meetings and report out. Bruce plans on attending these meetings as much as possible.
 - Response for requested strategic plan feedback

Good of the Order

There were no items at this time.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Adjourn

Chair LaTrisha Suggs adjourned the meeting at 7:06.