



July 2025 Final Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, July 21, 2025

Time: 5:30 – 7:10pm

Location: Hybrid meeting, Zoom and Clallam County Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room

Minutes prepared by Amelia Kalagher

Member Roll

	Member	Present?	Alternate	Present?
Academic Community	Ed Bowlby		Ioana Bociu	
At Large	Alan Clark (<i>NWSC Rep, Vice Chair</i>)	X	Mary Sue Brancato	
At Large	[vacant seat]	---	Ray Kirk	
Conservation & Environmental Interests	[vacant seat]	---	Nancy Stephanz	X
Development Community	[vacant seat]	---	[vacant seat]	---
District I	Jeff Ward		[vacant seat]	---
District II	Ann Soule	X	Lyn Muench	excused
District III	Mike Doherty	X	Dann May	
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	Christopher Burns	X	Robert Knapp	X
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	Allyce Miller		Chelsea Korbolic	excused
Makah Tribe	[vacant seat]	---	[vacant seat]	---
Marine Related Recreation & Tourism	Alicia Amerson		Helle Andersen	
Port Angeles City Council	LaTrisha Suggs (<i>Chair</i>)	excused	Navarra Carr	
Port of Port Angeles Commission	Jesse Waknitz		Katharine Frazier	X
Sequim City Council	Meggan Uecker		Kelly Burger	

Staff and Others Present

Rebecca Mahan (Clallam County Habitat Biologist Manager; CCMRC Coordinator), Amelia Kalagher (CCMRC Administrative Support), Sasha Horst (Northwest Straits Commission staff), Angela Glore (Strait ERN Coordinator), Jonathan Strivens (Clallam County Environmental Health)

Welcome / Call to Order / Roll Call

Vice Chair Alan Clark called the meeting to order at 5:30. Roll was called, and others introduced themselves.

Public Comment

- None at this time.

Approval of Minutes - June

- ***A quorum was not present. June minutes will be subject to approval at the August 18th meeting.***

Announcements

- ***2025-2027 grant proposals with Northwest Straits Commission:*** Alan gave an update from the Northwest Straits Commission, in which the final 2025-2027 budget is still being determined. MRCs are asked to begin planning and prioritizing for a potential budget reduction. Rebecca Mahan gave an update on the current grant proposals, which she and Amelia are revising with the Northwest Straits Commission in July. The Ediz Hook debris removal project has some concerns regarding meeting the grant criteria. The MRC is still waiting to hear about potential Strait ERN funding for the Elwha Stewardship project. Members briefly discussed prioritization and the Ediz Hook debris removal project. *Rebecca will reach out to Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe to discuss the status of the Ediz Hook debris removal project. *Amelia will issue a poll to help the MRC determine its priority projects.
- ***Habitat Biologist II position applications received:*** Rebecca gave an update on hiring for this position, which will serve as the MRC Project Coordinator once hired. Applications are currently being reviewed.
- ***Nancy Stephanz to be appointed Conservation & Environmental Interests rep 7/22.*** Nancy also gave a brief update on her Sound Toxins plankton monitoring work with Feiro Marine Life Center.
- ***PSEMP and NOAA film project to include info about MRC projects:*** Alan Clark gave an update on this topic. He and Chelsea Korbolic recently joined the film crew to take video kayaking at Freshwater Bay.
- ***Informational items***
 - ***Rayonier Pier cleanup:*** Members discussed the recent community meeting with a presentation from the Department of Ecology. A community forum will be held 7/22 by the City of Port Angeles.
 - ***McKinley Paper Mill:*** Members briefly discussed, with no concerns about the project shared at this time.
- ***Paddle to Elwha:*** The canoe families' Paddle to Elwha will include a landing at Jamestown on 7/30, landing at Lower Elwha 7/31, and protocol and celebration August 1-5.
- ***Clallam Conservation District:*** Ann Soule added this announcement. The CCD's funding cannot continue as-is, so there is a proposal for \$5 per parcel per year to replace the funding. This will be presented to the Clallam County Board of Commissioners. [There is a public hearing Friday, July 25th.](#)

Committee and Project Reports

- ***Kelp:*** Alan gave an update on new volunteers as part of the survey crew.

- *Pinto abalone*: Rebecca gave an update on survey dives scheduled for September.
- *Forage fish*: Chelsea, Helle and a community volunteer have been sampling routinely.
- *Advisory Subcommittee*:
 - *Rayonier Pier cleanup*: There was a public meeting July 8, and a community forum coming up through the City of Port Angeles on July 22.
 - *Cofferdam Facility seawall*: Katharine Frazier gave a brief update on this project for the Port of Port Angeles.

New and special business

- *Tug escort rulemaking*: A draft letter of support for the tug escort rulemaking was presented for consideration by Mike Doherty, but the MRC could not sign due to the lack of a quorum. It was suggested that any MRC members who support the letter may adapt it to make comment as an individual.

Good of the Order

- *Stadium Generale*: Nancy Stephanz contacted Peninsula College about potential Stadium Generale dates for this winter. Nancy can present. January 22 was scheduled.
- The group discussed impacts and response related to the recent Indian Creek fuel tanker spill.
- The Department of Ecology is doing a 5-year update on the best achievable science for oil spill policy.

Discussion of next meeting date and agenda

- *Next meeting*: The meeting will take place on Monday, August 18.
- *Call for new agenda items*: None at this time.

Public Comment

- Jonathan Strivens (Clallam County Environmental Health) made a comment regarding the Elwha River and Indian Creek fuel tanker spill. He received a call informing him of a plume of sediment coming down the river from the current construction zone. The group briefly discussed the construction work as it relates to the spill.

Adjourn

Vice Chair Alan Clark adjourned the meeting at 7:10.

Action Items

- *Amelia will issue a poll to help the MRC determine its priority projects.
- *Rebecca will reach out to Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe to discuss the status of the Ediz Hook debris removal project.