A blue sign with a starfish

Description automatically generated

**February 2025 Special Meeting / Retreat Final Minutes**

Date: Monday, February 24, 2025

Time: 4:00-7:14 PM

Location: Elwha Klallam Heritage Center, Port Angeles, Washington

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), Alan Clark (Community at Large; Northwest Straits Commission [NWSC]), Mike Doherty (District 3), Dann May (District 3 Alternate), Allyce Miller (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe), Lyn Muench (District 2 Alternate), Nancy Stephanz (Conservation and Environment Alternate), Ann Soule (Vice Chair; District 2), LaTrisha Suggs (Chair, Port Angeles City Council), Jeff Ward (District 1)

**Others present:** Rebekah Brooks (Rebekah Brooks Contracting), Amelia Kalagher (CC Marine Resources Committee [MRC] Administrative Support), Katie Kawal (Jefferson County MRC), Cathy Lear (CC), Rebecca Mahan (CC Habitat Biologist; CC MRC Coordinator), Nancy Slocum (Facilitator; Thrive Point Programs)

**Goal Setting and Orienting**

Ann Soule introduced Nancy Slocum, program administrator at Thrive Point Programs, as the facilitator for the CC MRC Retreat. Nancy assisted Vice Chair Ann, Chair LaTrisha Suggs, and CC staff to pull this special meeting together for project review and ranking. Nancy gave an overview of meeting norms: Do not interrupt, Stay on topic, Creativity encouraged, No bad ideas, Everyone is equal, and Respect time limits. Presenters would be giving brief lightning talks of about three to five minutes, with five minutes for questions. Projects were displayed around the room so that the CC MRC members could vote on them after the presentations.

**Project Lightning Talks with Q&A**

* Launch Advisory Capacity: *Lead: Ann Soule; Co-lead: LaTrisha Suggs:* *The goal of this project is to facilitate MRC member engagement with planning, permitting, and other governmental processes related to shoreline/nearshore/marine development.* Ann Soule shared a picture of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, which illustrated everything that the project stood for. She explained that stewarding the Strait required work and watchdogging, and that the advisory capacity for the CC MRC could do better. The proposal included the hiring of a consultant. Although that may not be necessary to launch, there was money available, and a consultant would help get the organization process started. Island County and San Juan County MRCs are both models in this area, as they utilize comprehensive plans, have experience with elevating community appreciation of marine resources, and have productive interactions with their own boards of county commissioners. Ann suggested that inviting those MRCs to speak to the CC MRC could be an idea. She added that the items in her outlines were flexible and welcomed feedback to modify the project. In the Q&A, Alan Clark noted that Island County has expressed interest in engaging with the CC MRC. Lyn Muench pointed out that communication with decision makers on a regular basis and in an organized manner was a neglected area. Dann May encouraged the group to work with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as much as possible. Ann clarified that the project still needed a co-lead, and that the estimated budget of $10,000 was optional but spending some money on a consultant would be helpful. \*Ann volunteered as lead; LaTrisha Suggs volunteered for co-lead. Ann thought that Bob Vreeland might wish to help as well. Nancy Stephanz expressed concern that the project was a little too vague. LaTrisha added that this was the concept, but it would be further developed.
* Shoreline Armoring Survey: *Lead: Ann Soule; Co-lead: Dann May: The goal of this project is to determine where shoreline armoring currently occurs and make the information public for regulatory and restoration purposes.* Ann Soule said that this looked like an important idea that could benefit County planners and be useful for organizations like the Land Trust and salmon restoration proponents. A similar survey was also done by Island and San Juan County MRCs, so those MRCs could be used as resources. Different methods could be used, including boat, plane, and aerial photography; the budget is variable depending on the method. It would be more contract management than volunteer based. During the Q&A, Alan Clark asked about the extent of the survey. Ann clarified that it could cover the full MRC area. Lyn Muench suggested coordinating with county GIS staff to mesh with their data; the work has been done before, so it would be worth reviewing data sets. Jeff Ward added that a scientist with Pacific Northwest National Laboratory conducted a boat survey with video, traveling the shoreline and recording the features. Ioana Bociu recommended referring to the Department of Ecology’s Coastal Atlas; there is a GIS layer that shows hard and soft armoring and three to six years of aerial photography of all shorelines. Cathy Lear added that the County, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, and Sea Grant would be flying LiDAR from Cape Flattery to Admiralty Inlet. LaTrisha Suggs said that bulkheading was still happening today, both permitted and illegally, but it was not working. Bringing all the data together could help prioritize and identify sensitive areas where development should not occur and show leaders that armoring does not work. Cathy said that Island County went through its shoreline permits and discovered that a fair portion of armoring in the county was not permitted. Amelia Kalagher pointed out that Island County was very good at advisory work. Ann noted that the project could be more about compiling existing data and finding out where the gaps were. \*Ann volunteered as lead; Dann May volunteered for co-lead. Ioana Bociu was interested in helping as well and thought that Department of Ecology’s guidelines would be a good starting point. Dann added that almost none of the armoring systems work and end up undermining the ecology. Rebecca Mahan proposed adding an educational component to the project because most homeowners do not understand that.
* Kelp and Eelgrass Display at Marine Discovery Center: *Lead: Nancy Stephanz; Co-lead: Jeff Ward: The goal of the project is to enhance connections with the new Marine Discovery Center through adoption of an educational display specifically on kelp and eelgrass and local occurrences/trends.*  Alan Clark said that as Feiro Marine Life Center transitions to the Marine Discovery Center, a display about kelp and eelgrass in the new building could help build new partnerships, become more in sync with the community, and continue work with an established partner, all while providing outreach about the CC MRC. With the educational booths the CC MRC has been setting up at events and centers, he has been thinking about how and where to bring an audience that wants to find out more about what has been presented. Ann Soule noted that they still needed to clarify things with Feiro. The new building would not be coming until 2028, so this might be preliminary, but kelp and eelgrass would be a great feature topic. During Q&A, Ed Bowlby asked about displaying the Pigeon Guillemot citizen science project, which could tie in well with the live bird exhibit that will be at the new Marine Discovery Center. Ioana Bociu inquired about an interim display before the new building was completed. Amelia Kalagher explained that the current space and capacity at Feiro is very full, but a temporary exhibit or event might be possible. With the new building scheduled to open in 2028, new development could very well still be planned for the coming biennium. \*Nancy Stephanz volunteered as lead; Jeff Ward volunteered as co-lead. Jeff asked whether the CC MRC was trying to develop a place for themselves at the Marine Discovery Center, or whether a rotating display on citizen science would be better. Ann was envisioning an expensive display like the one at the Port Townsend Marine Science Center, but they could consider a rotating exhibit as well. LaTrisha Suggs suggested a more intertidal exhibit, but Amelia noted that similar exhibits were already being planned.
* Kayak Kelp Surveys: *Lead Alan Clark; co-lead: Chelsea Korbulic: The goal of this project is to continue CC MRC and NWSC efforts to monitor, survey, and restore (future) eelgrass and kelp along the Strait of Juan de Fuca.* Alan Clark explained that the CC MRC has been doing this monitoring since 2015, with yearly surveys in Freshwater and Sequim bays. They have been enlarging their survey areas due to interest regarding kelp restoration projects with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The surveys are conducted by kayaks to track the waxing and waning of kelp beds, and to identify kelp and fish species. At the end of the year, the data is reviewed with NWSC kelp specialist Jeff Whitty. At this point, volunteers only need kayaking experience to participate. Some years, they have needed to reschedule the surveys due to weather and ocean conditions. During Q&A, Amelia Kalagher asked about the $25,000 estimated in the project plan for boat surveys. Alan clarified that this could be an added component to identify the presence or absence of kelp along the county shoreline, information which could be provided to the Board of County Commissioners or other interested groups. Mike Doherty noted that the tribes would probably be interested in this information and have their own knowledge and efforts that could help build partnerships and identify where work might be being duplicated. Alan added that they have done that with kelp restoration projects. Freshwater Bay is of interest because they have not observed serious declines there yet. LaTrisha Suggs asked how DNR’s vegetation surveys might be connected. Alan said that the data is made public to be used by everyone, and that connections have been made with DNR and Friday Harbor’s Marine Lab, but there was plenty of time to plug in more contacts. Currently, these surveys only cover the two locations. LaTrisha asked whether the boat survey was the only new piece to the project. Alan said it was basically new, but that they have already completed about a third of the shoreline survey. Jeff Ward added that the boat survey got as far as Whisky Creek but not all the way to the Lyre River; it adds another dimension to the project and would extend the area that they had reached previously. \*Alan volunteered as lead;Chelsea Korbulic volunteered as co-lead.
* Nearshore Restoration at Co-managed Wildlife Refuges: *Lead: Chris Burns; Co-lead: Ioana Bociu: The goal of this project is to restore nearshore habitat at the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe’s co-managed Dungeness and Protection Island wildlife refuges.* Chris Burns explained that the project would be focused on removing invasive grasses in the first year and replanting the areas with native plants in the second year. Allyce Miller clarified that the schedule is roughly to remove invasive plants from April through October, and to follow up with planting in the fall and following spring. Chris said that the area is about ten acres or more on Protection Island, and that Graveyard Spit is the main location in Dungeness Bay. During Q&A, Dann May asked about the source of the invasive plants. Chris said that cattle were brought in years ago. \*Chris Burns volunteered as lead; Ioana Bociu volunteered as co-lead. Dann May offered to help with the project as well.
* European Green Crab Control: *Lead: Chris Burns; Co-lead: TDB: The goal of this project is to control and aim to eliminate invasive European green crab (EGC) from Dungeness Spit Wildlife Refuge and other locations (as needed) in Clallam County.* Chris Burns explained that this would be a partnership between the CC MRC and the Dungeness Wildlife Refuge staff. During the Q&A, Cathy Lear pointed out that the project must be led by CC MRC members, but if it was valuable to the CC MRC, they could find a way to move it forward while satisfying NWSC conditions. Alan Clark noted that the NWSC has been shying away from spending money without engagement and would likely prefer to just hear about the project at the end of it without being part of it. Rebecca Mahan suggested that the CC MRC could have their own crab traps that they would be responsible for, but that could fall under the Refuge’s trapping permit. \*Chris volunteered to be the lead on the project and to work with the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe’s trapping program. He clarified that he had wanted to propose the project in case the CC MRC wished to participate. It would be possible for the CC MRC to sponsor some traps. Nancy Stephanz asked about working with the Sea Grant trapping program. Ed Bowlby said that he and Mary Sue Brancato worked with the Sea Grant team and the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe at the Jimmycomelately site. They all follow the same protocol. Chris said that this project would work with Refuge staff and volunteers and would require a small amount of training. He added that it would be ideal if the Dungeness Wildlife Refuge held a seat on the CC MRC, so that he would not have to be the go-between. Alan said that when he speaks with County Commissioners Mike Chapman and Steve Tharinger, they always ask about EGC. Chris noted that it is an issue of growing importance and very time-consuming. Alan suggested scaling the project based on the capacity of the CC MRC. Chris explained that Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe’s environmental biologist Neil Harrington was leading the effort, and this project would just be assisting him. Jeff Ward inquired about the estimated cost of $24,000; Chris said that was the estimate for staff time and equipment for two years. LaTrisha Suggs asked whether Robert Knapp would be interested in being the co-lead; Chris said that Robert is quite busy, but it was possible. \*LaTrisha said she could be a potential co-lead if needed.
* Olympia Oysters: *Lead: Chris Burns; Co-lead: Lyn Muench: The goal of this project is for Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe to work with the CC MRC’s Olympia Oyster Restoration Lead and CC MRC Coordinator to plan, coordinate, and implement the Olympia Oyster Population Surveys.* Chris Burns explained that the current contract for Olympia Oyster Population Surveys goes through September 2025, but he wondered if the CC MRC wished to continue that into the future. The restoration element of the project has been completed, but the monitoring can be continued. Lyn Muench advocated for continuing the project because the survey data was always beneficial. During Q&A, Lyn asked whether this would be a smaller project than it had been in the past. Chris clarified that Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe’s shellfish biologist Annie Raymond would continue to monitor the Olympia Oyster population and would provide the report; if more restoration was needed down the line, that could continue as well. \*Chris volunteered as lead; Lyn volunteered as co-lead. Dann May asked about the impact of ocean acidification on oyster populations. Chris said that ocean acidification tends to affect larvae the most, and since oysters are internal breeders, they have not been too impacted yet.
* Pigeon Guillemot Nesting Monitoring for 2025: *Lead: Ed Bowlby; Co-lead: Mary Sue Brancato (tentative) or Alan Clark (tentative): The goal of this project is to continue to monitor Pigeon Guillemot (PG) nesting season as an indicator species of nearshore health.* Ed Bowlby said that the CC MRC has sponsored this project since 2016 as a contribution to the Salish Sea Guillemot Network coordination effort with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). Prior to that time, Clallam County was a missing part of the Salish Sea coverage. They are looking for new recruits and volunteers as the work is all volunteer based. In the past, volunteers have been recruited from the CC MRC, the public, and the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society. The volunteer work takes only one hour per week and consists of sitting in a chair and watching the birds and any disturbances they encounter. The Network asks for a contribution of $500 per year for database maintenance, but that may be cost shared with the Audubon Society, bringing the estimated cost of the project to $250 per year. All the information goes into a regional database. During Q&A, LaTrisha Suggs mentioned that PG populations have been declining in Alaska and asked whether a decline in this area had been observed. Ed said that overall, the Salish Sea populations have been stable. The CC population has also been stable, but they have noticed that the birds are nesting earlier or later due to climate change patterns, which is resulting in different fish being fed to the nestlings. \*Ed volunteered to continue to lead the project. Mary Sue Brancato might be interested in co-leading the project; Alan Clark might volunteer as co-lead and said he would let Ed know.
* Elwha River Stewardship: *Lead: Helle Andersen; Co-lead: Dann May: The goal of this project is to protect and improve water quality, contribute to nearshore habitat and species protection, and encourage community stewardship.* Helle Andersen explained that during the project discussion in 2023, a question was raised about whether to find a cost sharing partner. Surfrider is a partner on the project as they fund a second portable toilet. Helle has been leading the project. She conducted 43 on-foot surveys to count people and dogs, ask visitors to fill out questionnaires, and refill dog waste bags. Clallam County also installed two car counters in October 2023 and August 2024. The surveys found that during the fall and winter months, there were 15,811 people and 3,558 dogs; during the spring and summer months, there were 34,599 people and 6,200 dogs. The total estimates for annual visitors to Elwha Beach were 50,410 people and 9,757 dogs, but Helle thinks this is actually an underestimate because the beach is also used as an outdoor classroom for hundreds of students that were not included in the visitation estimate. The questionnaire found that everyone thought the portable toilets and dog waste bags were important. The estimated budget of $32,000 per year includes the toilet maintenance and the dog waste bag refills. Continuing the project requires approval from the NWSC. During Q&A, Alan Clark noted that NWSC has expressed positive feedback about the project. Ann Soule asked whether it would be possible to add more education to the project, perhaps by posting weather-safe signage about the CC MRC and marine stewardship on the outside of the portable toilet. LaTrisha Suggs suggested asking Bill’s Plumbing (who service the portable toilet) whether usage could be extrapolated by maintenance. Amelia Kalagher pointed out that the CC MRC would have access to the Science Advisory Committee for the next few months as a resource if desired. \*Helle volunteered to continue to lead the project; Dann May volunteered as co-lead.
* Derelict Crab Pot Removal: *Lead: Chris Rumple; Co-lead: Ioana Bociu: The goal of this project is to train the CC MRC and the local community on effective derelict crab pot removal techniques using a Blue Robotics BlueROV2 and remove derelict gear around Port Angeles City Pier and other Port Angeles crabbing locations.* Ioana Bociu explained that the focus of the project would be on marine technology and the removal of crab pots and would include purchasing a remotely operated vehicle (ROV), training, permitting, identifying sites, and the removal of derelict crab pots. Future goals could add to the scope of the project, through troubleshooting, data management, or other needs that could arise. The estimated budget included $10,000 for the ROV and accessories, $4,000 for surveys to determine crab pot locations, and $1,000 for gear. Additional costs include a contractor for training, and a paid intern, but those costs are still unknown. The ROV would be used for the surveys to determine the locations of derelict crab pots, to connect hooks to the crab pots, and possibly for other efforts such as abalone and kelp surveys and engaging students in conservation. During Q&A, Ed Bowlby asked about sediment suspension; Ioana clarified that permitting would cover it, but it was necessary to consider. Jeff Ward said that he liked the project but expressed concerns about knowing how to use and maintain the equipment or having the ROV and other expensive gear go unused. He suggested approaching Blue Robotics about whether they would be interested in helping the CC MRC use an ROV for derelict gear removal in exchange for publicity. Nancy Stephanz asked if it would be possible to rent a ROV instead of purchasing one. Ann Soule inquired whether anyone had experimented with opening derelict crab pots and leaving them on the ocean floor instead of removing them and creating additional waste and associated costs. Ioana thought that it would be possible to do. Katie Kawal advised the group to consider liability insurance. Rebecca Mahan noted that the project would fall under a contractor’s insurance, but purchasing their own ROV would be a different scenario. Ioana said she would investigate liability insurance. \*Chris Rumple volunteered to lead the project; Ioana volunteered to co-lead.
* Pinto Abalone: *Lead: Jeff Ward; Co-lead: Alan Clark: The goal of this project is to restore sustainable Pinto Abalone populations in the Strait of Juan de Fuca.* Jeff Ward explained that Pinto Abalone density is below the density that scientists believe is necessary for reproductive success, and has been since the early 1990s, even after the recreational fishery was closed in 1996. Restoration efforts in the San Juans have begun to show an uptick in the population, but it is still well below necessary levels. In 2024, the WDFW announced that they thought there was Pinto Abalone in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, but they did not know where. Two diver surveys at Protection Island and Rocky Point were conducted. Around Protection Island, no abalone was observed and there was no habitat identified. At Rocky Point on the Miller Peninsula, no abalone was observed; however, potential rocky habitat was found. It is not likely to be a site for restoration, but it is possible that abalone could be captured to contribute to the gene pool. Contour lines were run with a depth finder via boat, and some areas were eliminated based on unsuitable habitat. Proposed activities for 2026-2027 include a survey west of Freshwater Bay to identify remnant populations and potential index sites, and to prioritize areas for future study and restoration efforts. If successful, it could be possible to out-plant abalone in the next few years. \*Jeff volunteered as lead; Alan Clark volunteered as co-lead. During Q&A, Rebecca Mahan noted that Feiro Marine Life Center was very interested in potential participation and helping to raise abalone for out-planting in the future. Jeff said that he would prefer to have local divers and the culturing done locally as well. Dann May asked about the cause of the Pinto Abalone population decrease; Jeff clarified that it was due to poaching and over-harvesting.
* Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) / Oiled Wildlife Response Training: *Lead: Nancy Stephanz; Co-lead: Ed Bowlby: The goal of this project is to conduct workshop trainings for volunteers on marine stewardship and protection topics such as HAZWOPER and oiled wildlife response.* Nancy Stephanz explained that she was going to the training herself, and that this was becoming increasingly important due to the rise in vessel traffic through the Strait of Juan de Fuca. \*Nancy volunteered as lead; Ed Bowlby volunteered as co-lead. During Q&A, the issue was raised about whether the project would fall under outreach or not. Rebecca Mahan said that would depend on whether the project became more about public outreach or providing training to CC MRC members.
* Forage Fish Monitoring: *Lead: Alan Clark; Co-lead: TBD: The goal of this project is to work in collaboration with the NWSC and WDFW to continue to monitor forage fish spawning on a monthly basis at four locations: Cline Spit, Ediz Hook, and beaches east and west of the Elwha River mouth.* Alan Clark said that the CC MRC had been conducting these surveys since 2016 to document when forage fish spawn, which is later in the Strait than in Puget Sound. The process consists of going to the sites, collecting sand, filtering it through mesh screens, concentrating any eggs, taking samples, and shipping them to WDFW labs to be identified. Helle Andersen said they had seen very little at the Elwha beaches, but a few had been found at Ediz Hook. Alan added that Cline Spit has good numbers of surf smelt and sand lance. During Q&A, Chris Burns asked about how much this work contributed to other forage fish monitoring efforts. Helle clarified that WDFW and other organizations rely on efforts like this to add to their studies because these sites are not included otherwise. Chris asked about moving sites; Helle said the locations were already defined. Chris noted that he had seen surf smelt west of the Elwha mouth. Ed Bowlby added that this has always been supplemental to other agency efforts, but that identifying forage fish at these sites prioritized them for HAZWOPER and oil spill response efforts. Rebecca Mahan said that it also enforces shoreline management regulations. Mike Doherty added that forage fish has been a topic of interest regionally for many years. \*Alan Clark volunteered to lead the project; Chelsea Korbulic and Ed Bowlby are possible co-leads.
* Ediz Hook Debris Removal: *Lead: Allyce Miller; Co-lead: TBD: The goal of this project is to work in collaboration with the Port Angeles Parks and Recreation Department to remove a lot of the concrete, asphalt, metal, and trash pieces that are littering the shoreline of Ediz Hook.* Allyce Miller explained that the Hook is a very special place that has been severely compromised by the road, Coast Guard base, riprap, and other armoring. It is supposed to be fed by the Elwha drift cell, but the armoring prevents natural processes and the human presence on the Hook has diminished native habitats. This project would assist with the removal of some of the infrastructure, including a derelict boat, concrete, and asphalt. The City’s Parks and Recreation Department wishes to excavate the debris with heavy equipment but has no plan for disposal or what to do afterward. This proposal is to cover the costs of debris removal and disposal to local places, such as Angeles Concrete, who can reuse some of the debris, and to host volunteer events to pick up the smaller pieces. It would be done over two years, with the planting of native plants in the second year. During Q&A, Ioana Bociu asked about permitting. Allyce said that the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe has done work with beach nourishment, so cultural compliance was covered, and the permits may still be current as well. Chris asked about the extent of the debris. Allyce said that the first step was to get what was already falling into the Strait. The group questioned whether this was a CC MRC project. \*Allyce volunteered as lead; a co-lead is to be determined. Dann May and Mike Doherty volunteered to help with the project.

**“Dots” Exercise to Mark Preferred Projects**

Before the group voted with their dots, they discussed how to do the exercise most efficiently. Lyn Muench expressed concern that using the dots turned the task into a popularity contest. Some projects might not get any dots, but they cost almost nothing. Other projects were very expensive and might get a lot of dots but not be very feasible. The group went over the limited availability of effort, staff, funding, volunteers, and time. Suggestions included setting aside the projects that the CC MRC had been doing for years and using the dots for only the new proposed projects, and asking whether the projects were affordable and if they could be done with available staff time. Rebecca Mahan explained that staff time is important for more than projects, and projects take a lot more time than they sound like they will. Alan Clark noted the CC MRC was already committed to some of the projects, such as Pinto Abalone and Olympia Oysters. If they chose not to continue with those projects, it would leave a hole in the monitoring data. After the group discussion, Nancy Slocum decided to take down the old projects so the Committee could vote only on the new projects. The Shoreline Armoring Survey sheet was left up but needs to be reconfigured before proceeding.

After voting, it was determined that European Green Crab Control and Ediz Hook Debris Removal both got 13 points; Nearshore Restoration at Co-managed Wildlife Refuges and Derelict Crab Pot Removal both got 12 points. Kelp and Eelgrass Display at Marine Discovery Center got 9 points. Launch Advisory Capacity and Shoreline Armoring Survey both got 8 points.

Next steps included collating the results of tonight’s special meeting and answering some big questions over the next four weeks regarding what of the existing projects to carry forward and what staff obligation was required. LaTrisha Suggs asked whether the group wanted to dedicate the next monthly CC MRC meeting in March to existing projects, or to developing the top new projects from tonight’s meeting. Cathy Lear said that working with the leads and co-leads to refine proposals, budgets, and how to highlight the CC MRC would be important to do prior to the next CC MRC meeting. A conversation between staff on their available time would also take place prior to the March meeting. Amelia Kalagher said that staff would reach out to project leads about project development. Rebecca Mahan noted that NWSC would be refining their request for proposals between now and the next CC MRC meeting on 3/17/25. Amelia explained that it would be an active collaborative process between County staff, NWSC, and the CC MRC.

**Adjournment**

Chair LaTrisha Suggs adjourned the meeting at 7:14 PM, with a CC MRC member group photo following.