

# ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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## Minutes

Prepared by Anna Toledo

# April 20, 2018

COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM B-102, COUNTY ANNEX, COUPEVILLE

**PRESENT:** Elsa Schwartz, Chair, presiding, **Barbara Bennett** (WebEx), **Ed Halloran**, **Linda Rhodes** (WebEx), **Ruth Richards**, **Kestutis Tautvydas**, **Frances Wood** (WebEx), **Kelly Zupich**, **Florian Graner** (non-voting, technical advisor), **Lori Clark**, Island County DNR (non-voting), **Anna Toledo** MRC Coordinator (staff) **ABSENT:** **Mike Bianchi**, **Jill Johnson**, **Matt Kukuk**, **Tim Lawrence**, **Mark Stamey**

**VISITORS:** Dawn Spilsbury Pucci (Island County Lead Entity Salmon Recovery)

**CALL TO ORDER:** Schwartz called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. **INTRODUCTIONS:** Introductions were done. **QUORUM:** A quorum was declared. **AGENDA:** Halloran moved to approve the agenda. Tautvydas seconded. The agenda was approved. **MINUTES:** Tautvydas moved to approve the April 3, 2018 minutes. Zupich seconded. The minutes were approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Toledo read a letter from the Board of County Commissioners thanking the MRC for their service in honor of National Volunteer Week.

**2018-2019 Work Plan:** The MRC reviewed the projects listed in the draft 2018-2019 work plan:

- Opportunity Fund: The MRC will apply for \$2,000 for the pigeon guillemot coordinator and \$8,000 of match for the Seahorse Siesta restoration project.
- Forage fish
  - o Monitoring is planned to continue
  - o WDFW is interested in having MRCs continue with index and restoration sites
- Bull kelp
  - o Monitoring is planned to continued
  - o The data are valuable to WA DNR and bull kelp recovery interests. Bull kelp is also listed as an ILIO local priority under subaquatic vegetation.
- Eelgrass
  - o The underwater videography component will not be included.
  - o Aerial photography and sonar will continue. This summer, sonar will be tested by kayak at Cornet Bay, Monroe Landing, and Holmes Harbor.
  - o There is the possibility of ground-truthing at sites, especially in areas of interest for eelgrass wasting disease.
  - o Clallam and Jefferson MRCs had shown some interest in monitoring, but are not actively engaged at the moment.
  - o Budget includes \$2500 for Biobase software and \$500 for fuel and equipment.

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- Outreach
  - The Board of County Commissioners expressed support for community forums and suggested stormwater management as a potential topic.
  - Additional outreach ideas included:
    - Pub nights
    - Speakers series
    - Forage fish survey demonstration. Could be combined with a low-tide beach walk with SWS.
    - Crabbing 101 classes. Tie in with Catch More Crab campaign.
    - Behavior change around plastics
      - Educate businesses about cost of changing out Styrofoam containers
      - Develop certification for businesses making eco-friendly decisions in regards to plastics
      - Develop list of resources on where items can be recycled
    - Proper car oil care: partner with fixcarleaks.org to host free leak inspection events
  - Outreach work encompasses all projects, and specific tasks should be divided among MRC members.
  
- Discover our Island Shores video
  - Local schools are very interested
  - Snohomish County MRC is interested in integrating “Discover the Olympic Coast” into their schools
  
- Restoration
  - The Northwest Straits Foundation has identified two potential restoration sites: Hidden Beach and Possession Point State Park. Additional partners would include Island County Public Works and WA DNR at Hidden Beach, and WA State Parks at Possession Point. Anna, NWSF staff, and potential partners will be visiting the sites on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Restoration sites should have MRC project champion. Schwartz, Zupich, and Rhodes expressed interest in attending site visits.
  
- Creosote and Marine Debris
  - Zupich spoke with Chris Robertson from WA DNR. Their program can remove creosote and marine debris from beaches. They anticipate to have MyCoast app running in about 6 months.
  - MRC role could be to help WA DNR’s outreach efforts, find volunteers to help locate creosote, and/or ground-truth and prioritize creosote for removal.
  - The Samish Indian Nation has worked with Earth Corps to do creosote removal

## ACTIONS/DECISIONS/FOLLOW-UP

- **ACTION: Tautvydas moved to approve the 2018-2019 work plan. Zupich seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

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## **Updates and Ongoing Business:**

- The aging shoreline infrastructure workshop in Coupeville is scheduled for April 21. 41 people have pre-registered. The forum on Camano is scheduled for April 28.
- The May 1<sup>st</sup> MRC meeting will be held at Camano Island Library. Snohomish County MRC will present on the MyCoast app.
- Site visits for the proposed Salmon Recovery Funding Board projects in Island County is scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup> before the MRC meeting. A carpool will be leaving from Coupeville at 7:15am and returning after the MRC meeting. Interested members should contact Toledo.

## **COMMUNITY COMMENT FORUM AND Q&A FROM THE PUBLIC** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business and no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm.