

County: Clallam
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Clallam Marine Resources Committee 2015 Annual Report



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Introduction

This report summarizes the activities and progress of the Clallam Marine Resources Committee (CMRC) during the 2015 calendar year. The activities focused on community outreach and specific projects associated with marine debris, oil spill preparedness, Olympia oyster restoration, and educational outreach. The highlights of these activities include:

- Conducted 11 regular scheduled CMRC meetings (December 21st meeting was cancelled)
- Participated in the annual MRC conference
- Attended regular scheduled NWSC meetings and conference calls
- Partnered with local organizations to sponsor and organize cleanups along the Strait of Juan de Fuca
- Organized an oil spill awareness workshop and forum with Northwest Straits Foundation
- Provided a free 8-hour HazWoper training for community members
- Provided two free oiled wildlife rescue trainings for community members
- Organized a moderated panel to explore the topic, “The Future of Fish”
- Covered a booth at the Dungeness River Festival
- Hosted a speaker series including four presenters at CMRC meetings and four presenters at different public locations
- Sponsored five student interns to coordinate beach cleanups, outreach events, delineate invasive species, compile information for updates to the Geographic Oil Spill Response Plan, and restore and monitor Olympia oyster populations in Sequim Bay
- Provided clean shells for the Olympia oyster restoration effort

Administration

Three new members joined CMRC in 2015: Alan Clark, At-large; Kathy Cooper, Marine Trades; and Mike Doherty, Commissioner District III. In June, Helle Andersen was hired as the new CMRC Project Coordinator.

The Coordinator and the Project Coordinator continued to provide support to CMRC by organizing the monthly meetings, preparing agendas, meeting materials, minutes, and public notices for the monthly meetings. The coordinators also continued to submit the deliverables to NWSC and Department of Ecology including monthly, quarterly, progress, semi-annual, final, and annual reports.

During 2015 CMRC invited three speakers to the regular scheduled monthly meetings. In June, Joan Drinkwin, Interim Executive Director of the Northwest Straits Foundation, spoke about the shoreline armoring reduction project and John Cambalik, Coordinator for the Strait Ecosystem Recovery Network & Local Integrating Organization, spoke about the new Puget Sound Partnership funding model. In September, Julie Knights, Executive Director of the Island Oil Spill Association, gave an overview of IOSA roles, services and current work. In July several CMRC members participated in a summer field trip to the Olympia Oyster Restoration Site in Sequim Bay hosted by the Dungeness River Management Team. Other educational events are described in this report under oil spill preparedness and response, and educational outreach.

Bob Vreeland and Mike Doherty participated in the North Olympic Climate Change workshops held by the North Olympic Development Council, Washington Sea Grant and Adaptation International. Cathy Lear, the CMRC Coordinator, served on the Strait ERN LIO Steering Group.

CMRC members and staff regularly attended NWSC meetings and conference calls including Jeff Ward at the NWSC Retreat in March, Lyn Muench in the June NWSC conference call, Jeff Ward and Helle Andersen in the August NWSC conference call, Lyn Muench, Jeff Ward and Helle Andersen at the NWSC meeting in October, and Jeff Ward and Helle Andersen in the December conference call.

Seven CMRC and staff members participated in the annual MRC conference in Bellingham: Jeff Ward, Kathy Cooper, Bob Vreeland, Alan Clark, Ed Bowlby, Cathy Lear, and Helle Andersen. Jeff Ward gave a presentation on CMRC internship program and Alan Clark gave a presentation about boat safety at the kelp monitoring session. The CRMC received an award from the NWSC for Olympia



oyster restoration efforts in Sequim Bay.

Marine Debris

In 2015 CMRC coordinated or participated in several marine debris events including Earth Day, two cleanup efforts at Ediz Hook and the International Coastal Cleanup effort. During these events an estimated 163 volunteers donated about 450 hours to clean up approximately 35 miles of beach. Each of the marine debris events are described in more detail in the following sections.

Earth Day Beach Cleanup

CMRC supported the beach cleanup efforts on April 25th by providing a dumpster for the marine debris and covering the tipping fees and cleanup materials for beach cleanups at and west of Clallam Bay. The cleanup effort was advertised to the community by posting a flyer made by CMRC at several locations throughout Port Angeles and at Clallam Bay Visitor Center.



Clallam Bay—Sekiu & Western Straits

COMMUNITY BEACH CLEANUP

Saturday, April 25th, 2015

Please join us in celebrating Earth Day by helping remove litter from our local beaches—Pillar Point to Bullman Beach!

TRASH BAG & GLOVE HANDOUT & SIGN UP : 9 AM

CLALLAM BAY VISITOR CENTER (Coffee & Goodies, too!)

HOKO RIVER/VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD BY MAILBOXES

SEKIU RIVER (NW CORNER PAST BRIDGE)

SHIPWRECK POINT (PULLOUT WITH HISTORIC MARKER)

RAY'S GROCERY

A dumpster will be available at the Clallam County Park in Clallam Bay.

Bring your "Most Unusual Finds" to the Visitor Center for display & prizes by 3 pm Saturday!

1-4 PM: Complimentary BBQ, Refreshments and

Music at Chito Beach Resort

FOR INFO: Call Roy & Nancy 963-2442

Clallam Bay—Sekiu Estero Club



CLALLAM COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE



Northwest Straits
INITIATIVE
partners in marine conservation

This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The event was a success as indicated by the following article in the NWSC newsletter.

“Best Turnout Ever” for Clallam Bay – Sekiu Beach Cleanup, April 25

Great weather and an enthusiastic crowd contributed to the best turnout to date for the Clallam Bay-Seki beach cleanup on April 25.

49 Volunteers donated 119 Hours and cleaned about 20 Miles of beach from Deep Creek to Bullman Beach. The volunteers collected 1.4 tons of debris and enjoyed a post-cleanup barbecue and music. The Clallam Marine Resources Committee donated bags, gloves, and rental and tipping fees for a 20 cubic yard dumpster.

An unusual anchor with rope entwined won first prize in the "Most Unusual Find" contest at the Clallam Bay Visitor Center. A piece of fiberglass boat won second prize.

Thanks to all who participated.

Fourth of July Parade

On July 4th CMRC members and Haley Gray, the 2015 marine debris summer intern, walked in the 2015 Port Angeles parade to promote beach cleanup of Ediz Hook Beach. To draw attention to the issue of marine debris a float was created around Sarah Tucker’s “Merperson” sculpture which was made of marine debris.



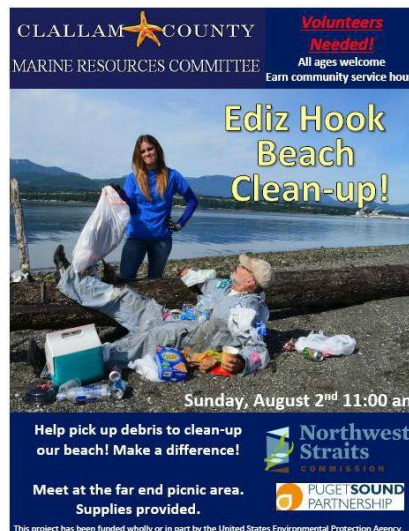
July 5th Ediz Hook Beach Cleanup

The July 5th beach cleanup on Ediz Hook was organized by Haley Gray and it turned out to be a big success. Thirty-five volunteers, the youngest only 5, worked together to fill 20 bags worth of debris. Walking the two miles of shoreline on the bay side and parking areas at the Hook, volunteers reported the most common items found were sparkler sticks and other firework remains. The Clallam MRC provided gloves and bags and the City of Port Angeles provided the dumpsters.

August 2nd Ediz Hook Beach Cleanup

A smaller group of volunteers came for the second Ediz Hook beach cleanup. Together they collected about seven bags of marine debris. The debris included fast food containers, Styrofoam, clothing, rope, cigarettes and plastic and tin cans. The Clallam MRC provided gloves and bags and the City of Port Angeles once again provided the dumpsters.

The CMRC intern, Haley Gray, advertised the event by making a flyer and posting it on CMRC website, the “Revitalize Port Angeles” website and several locations throughout Port Angeles.



International Coastal Cleanup

For the September 19th ICC event the CMRC Project Coordinator coordinated the cleanup efforts in the Strait of Juan de Fuca with Jon Schmidt from Washington CoastSavers. The coordination effort included finding volunteers for the registration booths, distribution of cleanup materials and organizing debris deposits at the landfill. Five community members volunteered to register people for the cleanup efforts of the following areas; Dungeness Spit, Peabody Creek, Ediz Hook, Freshwater Beach, Pillar Point, Deep Creek, Twin Rivers, Clallam Bay, Hoko River, Sekiu River, Shipwreck Point Beach and Bullman Beach.

The participation in the cleanup efforts varied greatly depending on the area. Only 12 volunteers showed up to work on all the beaches west of Ediz Hook, whereas more than 40 volunteers cleaned up Ediz Hook (four adults and the entire ROTC from the Port Angeles High School – about 40 students). About 20 volunteers worked on cleaning up Peabody Creek. An estimated 20 bags of marine debris were removed from Ediz Hook. The heaviest haul, about 200 lbs, which included a swing set came from the beaches around Clallam Bay.

Oil Spill Preparedness and Response

In 2015 CMRC organized several oil spill trainings and educational outreach events including an oil spill awareness workshop and forum, and HazWoper and oiled wildlife trainings. Each of these events are described in more detail in the following sections.

Oil Spill Awareness Workshop and Forum

In February, CMRC coordinated with Northwest Straits Foundation to offer an oil spill awareness workshop and forum. The afternoon workshop focused on Incident Command and other technical issues. The evening forum sponsored by the CMRC, was geared for the general

public and explored how agencies respond to an oil spill. Both events presented the results of current oil spill risk research. A summary of the event including a short survey of the audience was written by Nhi Irwin from Veda Environmental.

An article about the forum appeared in the Peninsula Daily News and a letter complimenting the Clallam MRC's forum appeared in the Peninsula Daily News' Letters to the Editor column.

<http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20150217/NEWS/302179997/0/SEARCH>



HazWoper Training

In March, CMRC provided a free 8-hour training in Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HazWoper) in the Port Angeles City Council chambers. The training was held in partnership with state and federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations. Partners included Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, Focus Wildlife, and the US Coast Guard.



The training provided basic information about who is involved in oil spill response, precautions required for those responding to a spill, and the current state of spill response preparedness. The participants learned about safety and health, personal protective equipment, site characterization, and control and spill management. More than 45 volunteers received a certification for completing the HazWoper training.



Oiled Wildlife training



Two oiled wildlife training sessions were held in the spring of 2015 for volunteers interested in learning how to rescue and rehabilitate wildlife affected by an oil spill. Trainings focusing on Basic Intake and Stabilization were held on March 28th and May 30th. The participants learned basic bird anatomy and how to take care of oiled birds which included holding, washing, weighing, giving the birds fluids and performing a general health examination.







Trainings focusing on Search and Capture were held on April 11th and June 13th. The participants learned about search and collection planning and procedures including how to find and stalk the birds, how to team up to capture the birds using nets and how to safely hold and place the birds in transportation boxes.

Both trainings covered health & safety and general facility requirements. Each training concluded with an exercise that required volunteer participants to demonstrate lessons learned. Classroom trainings were conducted at the Clallam County Fairgrounds; the search and capture field practice was conducted at Ediz Hook.



The first set of oiled wildlife trainings was advertised by posting the flyer below throughout Port Angeles and also online. The number of volunteers signing up for the trainings was so great that

a second set of oiled wildlife trainings was organized. More than 80 volunteers participated in and completed the two wildlife training sessions.

<div style="background-color: #e67e22; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Oiled Wildlife Basic Intake & Stabilization March 28, 2015 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. </div> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 5px;"> Register online at http://www.clallamcountywa.gov/yourcommunity, or call 360.417.2361 Maximum attendance: 25 </p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-top: 10px;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px; font-size: small;"> <p>Where: Exposition Hall, Clallam County Fairgrounds, 1608 West 16th Street, Port Angeles</p> <p>Open a Map Online</p> <p>Lunch: Please remember to bring your lunch! Snacks will be provided.</p> </div> </div> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 10px;"> Expect: Approx. 2/3 day indoors, 1/3 day outdoors. Classes will cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health & safety: Facility requirements. Bird anatomy & family characteristics, live & dead specimen practice sessions. Effects of oil & secondary complications. Hands-on bird anatomy and basic examination (breathing, pulse, eyes, temperature). Bird handling, intubation / hydration (optional blood drawing). <p>Bring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your lunch Comfortable, casual clothes that you don't mind getting a little dirty (as in yard work wear) Lounged clothing in case room temperature is difficult to adjust </p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: x-small; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>SPONSORED BY</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>WITH SUPPORT FROM</p>  </div> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin-top: 5px;"> <small>This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.</small> </p>	<div style="background-color: #e67e22; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Oiled Wildlife Search, Collection, & Initial Stabilization Saturday, April 11, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM </div> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 5px;"> Register online at http://www.clallamcountywa.gov/yourcommunity, or call 360.417.2361 Maximum attendance: 30 </p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-top: 10px;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px; font-size: small;"> <p>Where: Exposition Hall, Clallam County Fairgrounds, 1608 West 16th Street, Port Angeles</p> <p>Open a Map Online</p> <p>Expect: About 3/4 day indoors, 1/4 day outdoors. Physically demanding; walking exercises on beach, sneakers remain. Rain or wind or shine. Dress warm & dry.</p> </div> </div> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 10px;"> Classes will cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health & safety: Facility requirements. Bird anatomy & family characteristics, live & dead specimen practice sessions. Effects of oil & secondary complications. Search & collection planning. Search & collection procedures (netting, stalking, teamwork, gear). Initial "beak-to-tail" examination & treatment (breathing, pulse, eyes, temperature, etc). Bird handling, intubation / hydration (optional blood drawing). <p>Bring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch Remember to bring your lunch! Snacks will be provided Hiking gear: binoculars, rain gear, sturdy boots (waterproof if possible), sunglasses, hat, layers. Clothes that you don't mind getting dirty (crawling over logs, sand, gravel, etc.) </p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: x-small; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>SPONSORED BY THE</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>WITH SUPPORT FROM</p>  </div> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin-top: 5px;"> <small>This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.</small> </p>
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Educational Outreach

In 2015 CMRC organized several educational outreach events including presentations on climate change, the future of seafood, and the Olympia oyster restoration in Sequim Bay. In addition CMRC provided the very successful internship program for five local students. Each of these events are described in more detail in the following sections.

Climate Change and Tribal Resources Presentation

In March, CMRC and its partner, Feiro Marine Life Center, invited Hansi Hals, Environmental Planning Program Manager at the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, to talk about a newly published report which focused on identifying tribal resources sensitive to climate change. The presentation included possible impacts to the vulnerable resources and actions to improve resiliency. The audience included approximately 35 people of which a large portion was students from Port Angeles High School.

“The Future of Fish” Panel



In June, CMRC and its partner, Feiro Marine Life Center, presented a moderated panel to explore the topic, “The Future of Fish.” Panel members included Robert Elofson of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe; Neil Conklin, owner of local restaurant Bella Italia; Graham Young of the UW School of Aquatic &

Fisheries Sciences; Alan Cook, of Icicle Seafoods; and moderator Pete Granger, of Washington Sea Grant.

Brief opening comments were followed by an extensive and wide-ranging Q&A session. Topics ranged from sourcing seafood for local restaurants to finfish aquaculture techniques to worldwide seafood consumption patterns. The audience included about 40 people and the questions and answers session lasted more than one hour.

Olympia Oyster Restoration Presentation

In July, Tori Cantelow, one of the CMRC 2015 summer interns, talked about the successful restoration effort of the Olympia oyster in Sequim Bay. The restoration effort started in 2012 with the goal of adding 1.5 acres of Olympia oyster bed to the 35 acres already established in Puget Sound.



The project is a collaborative effort between Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, CMRC and Puget Sound Restoration Fund. In 2015 a new project was initiated which monitors larval survival and dispersal in the bay. Future restoration efforts include assessing the feasibility of introducing Olympia oysters into Washington Harbor, including areas of the north lagoon recently reconnected to Sequim Bay and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. If successful, the project could add 1-2 acres of new Olympia oyster beds in Clallam County.

The presentation was organized by Emily Larson, another MRC 2015 summer intern, whose focus was educational outreach to Clallam County community members. Twenty-five people enjoyed the presentation and the provided refreshments.

Sea level Rise and Adaption Strategies Presentation



In August, Ian Miller, Washington Sea Grant, and Cindy Jayne, North Olympic Development Council, discussed sea level rise and adaptation strategies on the North Olympic Peninsula. They presented for a packed audience as the presentation had been featured on the front page of Peninsula Daily News a couple of days earlier.

Cindy Jayne started the presentation describing the process for the nearly completed climate change vulnerability assessment for the North Olympic Peninsula. Ian Miller then took over and gave a very engaging presentation about the causes behind climate change, sea level rise and the predictions for the North Olympic Peninsula focusing on Neah Bay, Port Angeles, Port Townsend and the area near the Dungeness River estuary.

This was the second presentation organized by Emily Larson, the CMRC educational outreach summer intern. Peninsula Daily News wrote an article promoting the speaker event <http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20150825/NEWS/308259969>. More than 90 people enjoyed the presentations and the provided refreshments.

Summer Internship Program

In 2015 CMRC offered a paid internship to five local students. Each student worked on one of the following topics: marine debris, oil spill preparedness and response, invasive plants on Port of Port Angeles property, educational outreach, and Olympia oyster restoration. At the end of their internships the five students gave poster presentations for the local community at the Port Angeles Yacht Club. Approximately 30 people enjoyed the intern presentations and the provided refreshments.



Marine debris removal on Ediz Hook. The intern organized two beach cleanups on Ediz Hook, The first cleanup July 5th removed 20 bags of debris primarily fireworks and the second cleanup August 2nd removed about 7 bags of debris including bottles, cups, shoes and clothes. To raise

awareness of the July 5th cleanup the intern organized a float for the Fourth of July parade in Port Angeles.

Community outreach - building awareness and public support for marine recovery actions. The intern organized a short speaker series. On July 22nd Tori Cantelow talked about the restoration of Olympia oysters in Sequim Bay. On August 27th Ian Miller, Washington Sea Grant, and Cindy Jayne, North Olympic Development Council, talked about sea level rise on the peninsula. In addition, the intern worked on CMRC booth material for the Dungeness River Festival.



Assist in updating the Geographic Oil Spill Response Plan. The intern updated the information on the Elwha River estuary using Google Earth with a focus on the large changes in sediment distribution and type at the mouth of the river. The effort was summarized in an appendix to be included in the revised Geographic Response Plan. Jeff Ward has contacted Department of Ecology to inform them about the approach and the possibility for regional application.

Survey of invasive plants along the shore of Port Angeles Harbor. The intern worked with the Port of Port Angeles to document the distribution of invasive plant species on port property. The effort was summarized in a shoreline management plan on how to control the invasive plants.



Restoration of the Olympia oyster in Sequim Bay. For the second year the CMRC intern worked closely with Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe on the Olympia oyster restoration project. By summer 2015 the Olympia oyster bed has reached a size of approximately 0.64 acres with a density of 18 oysters/m² for a total of population of approximately 46,600 oysters.

Dungeness River Festival

On September 25th and 26th CMRC had a booth at the Dungeness River Festival. The booth displayed posters and handed out flyers about NWSC's kelp monitoring project and the Olympia oyster restoration efforts in Sequim Bay. The booth also displayed three posters made by the summer interns about marine debris, native plant removal, and Geographic Response Plan update of the Elwha estuary.



CMRC members Alan Clark, Kathy Cooper, Arnold Schouten, Jeff Ward, Bob Campbell and CMRC staff used live geoducks, Olympia and Pacific oysters to communicate the importance of good habitat and clean water for healthy shellfish populations. The geoducks were provided by CMRC member Doug Morrill and the Olympia oysters by Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe.

CMRC potential reached 3,000 festival participants of which more than 900 were grade school students. Similar to previous year students visited each booth at the festival to answer a question. With a correct answer, each student received a stamp under the question printed on their festival passport. CMRC members asked the question, 'How long does a geoduck live?' while providing live geoducks for students to examine. The question and the live geoduck provide a way to talk about water quality and other essentials of marine habitat, and the stamped passport offer a reminder to the student about both the geoduck and the importance of marine habitats. The festival was featured in Sequim Gazette

<http://www.sequimgazette.com/news/328874001.html>

