

BEFORE THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF:)
Establishing a Clallam County)
Marine Resources Committee)
As Provided For Under the) RESOLUTION NO. 58, 1999
Northwest Straits Commission)

THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FINDS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The marine waters adjacent to Clallam County represent a resource of significant environmental, cultural and economic value to the people of the region for this and future generations.
2. The nearshore marine areas represent critical nursery grounds and migration areas for almost all commercially valuable living marine resources, including shellfish and many finfish.
3. In recent years, commercial and sports marine resources have generally been in decline.
4. Clallam County's marine coastline adjacent to the Pacific Ocean is protected by a National Marine Sanctuary which has an advisory board which includes representatives of geographically appropriate federal, state, local, and tribal entities.
5. It is appropriate to provide a mechanism for coordinating and continuing endeavors to protect natural marine habitats and fish and wildlife populations within the waters of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, which are not included in the Pacific Coast Marine Sanctuary
6. The Northwest Straits Commission was established on October 1, 1998 to provide an inter-county coordination and communication mechanism to assist efforts focusing on the marine resources of the Northwest Straits, from Cape Flattery in Clallam County to Blaine in Whatcom County.
7. Issues of tribal sovereignty, treaty rights, fishery co-management authority and responsibility and other jurisdictional responsibilities exist within and around the geographical boundaries of the Northwest Straits Commission program.
8. Counties may participate in the Northwest Straits Commission process by establishing Marine Resources Committees.
9. Marine Resources Committees are the structure by which counties can qualify to receive financial assistance and technical expertise from the Northwest Straits Commission and/or participating entities, for local government use in carrying out the scientific research, education, and planning functions required to appropriately and effectively address marine resource issues in the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE ABOVE FINDINGS, the Board of Clallam County Commissioners does hereby resolve to:

- I. Establish the Clallam County Marine Resources Committee as an advisory committee to the County Commissioners regarding issues related to the marine resources of the Strait of Juan de Fuca and its bays, estuaries and inlets within the borders of Clallam County.
- II. The Marine Resources Committee's mission is to address local marine issues related to the Strait of Juan de Fuca, recommend remedial actions to local authorities, build local awareness of the issues and support for remedies consistent with the Benchmarks for Performance as established in the August 20, 1998 Report to the Convenors by the Murray-Metcalf Northwest Straits Citizens Advisory Commission, including specific tasks as identified in "Exhibit A" (attached).
- III. Where relevant, the Marine Resources Committee shall make all reasonable efforts to coordinate with other resource planning projects, agencies, committees, councils, and tribal and non-tribal entities.
- IV. The Marine Resources Committee shall consist of 13 members. Seven shall be appointed by the Board of Clallam County Commissioners. The Sequim and Port Angeles City Councils, Port of Port Angeles Commission, Makah, Lower Elwha Klallam, and Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Councils shall each appoint one member.
- V. Marine Resources Committee members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners shall include not less than one person from: a.) each of the three Commissioner Districts, b.) the Clallam Bay-Seki community, c.) commercial fishers, d.) sport fishers, e.) conservation/environmental interests, f.) the academic community.
- VI. Appointees shall be recruited by public announcements, plus active solicitation of interest from persons with relevant scientific expertise and constructive knowledge.
- VII. Appointments to the committee shall be for two, three, and four year terms to establish a revolving membership serving four year terms.
- VIII. Members of the Marine Resources Committee shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for documented expenses at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners.
- IX. A member of the staff of the Clallam County Planning Division shall be designated to provide staff support in a non-voting, *ex officio* capacity. The Quileute Tribal Council and other federal, state, local

and tribal government entities may also designate staff or liaisons to assist the work of the Marine Resources Committee in a non-voting, *ex officio* capacity.

- X. The Marine Resources Committee shall continue until its charter is rescinded by official resolution of the Board of Clallam County Commissioners.
- XI. Funding for the Marine Resources Committee during 1999 shall be contingent on receiving a start-up stipend of \$10,000 from the Northwest Straits Commission.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 15th DAY OF June, 1999.

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Carole Y. Boardman
Carole Y. Boardman, Chair

Martha M. Ireland
Martha M. Ireland

Not Present
Howard V. Doherty, Jr.

ATTEST:

Karen Flores
Karen Flores, Clerk of the Board

cc: Community Development
Board file
minutes

Exhibit A

GOALS OF MARINE RESOURCE COMMITTEES CONSISTENT WITH THE BENCHMARKS FOR PERFORMANCE FOR THE NORTHWEST STRAITS ADVISORY COMMISSION:

- Encourage strong county participation in Marine Resources Committees (MRCs).
- Consistent with a scientifically-based regional system of Marine Protected Area (MPAs), identify local candidate sites and urge their inclusion at the appropriate level.
- Help insure a net gain in highly ecologically productive nearshore, inter tidal, and estuarine habitat within the county, as well as no significant loss of existing, high-value habitat. Work with State (the Puget Sound Action Team and resource agencies) tribes, and local authorities (especially local planning departments) to help map, assess, and protect nearshore habitat and prevent harm from upland activities through local and state ordinances and shoreline plans.
- Help insure a net reduction in shellfish harvest areas within the county closed due to contamination.
- Contribute to measurable increases in factors supporting bottom fish recovery (such as rockfish) - including numbers of fish of broodstock size and age, average fish size, and abundance of prey species - as well as sufficient amounts and quality of protected habitat.
- Contribute to increases in other key marine indicator species (including those identified in the 1997 West report on Puget Sound marine resources).
- Use and contribute to a scientific data pool on marine resources (for example, through the Puget Sound Ambient Monitoring Program - PSAMP), including a scientific baseline, common protocols, unified GIS, and sharing of ecosystem assessments and research.

SPECIFIC TASKS:

- Help assess marine resources and problems in concert with governmental agencies, tribes and other entities.
- Help identify local implications, needs, and strategies associated with the recovery of Puget Sound salmon under the Federal Endangered Species Act in concert with governmental agencies, tribes and other entities.
- Work with the Puget Sound Ambient Monitoring Program and other programs to enhance the scientific baseline and monitoring of the marine environment in the Northwest Straits.
- Identify current actions and the need for additional measures.
- Prioritize actions.
- Work closely with county leadership to implement local marine conservation and restoration initiatives.
- Coordinate with the Northwest Straits Advisory Commission on marine ecosystem objectives.
- Reach out to the public and other key constituencies on such issues as the link between healthy marine habitat and healthy resources and how MPAs can play an important role in habitat and resource protection.

MEMBERSHIP:

The Marine Resources Committee members shall be selected by county commissions and councils to ensure that the committee is represented by:

- Relevant scientific expertise;
- Balanced representation from:
 - Local government (especially planning staff from counties and cities with marine shorelines);
 - Affected economic interests (such as port, commercial fishers);
 - Affected recreational interests (such as sport fishers);
 - Conservation and environmental interests;
- Tribes. Each recognized tribe with a reservation in the county shall be offered a seat on the MRC. The representative is to be appointed by their respective tribal authority;
- Constructive and knowledgeable individuals.

The chair of the MRC shall be selected by a majority of the MRC membership. MRC members shall, by consensus, select one representative to serve on the Northwest Straits Advisory Commission.