

CLALLAM COUNTY  
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes

Date: Monday February 26, 2018

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Location: Commissioners' Large Conference Room

Minutes prepared by Helle Andersen

**Members present:**

**P = Present E= Excused**

P Bob Vreeland	Robert Knapp	P Arnold Schouten	Mike McHenry	P Sissi Bruch
P Kathy Cooper	P Jeff Ward	P Mike Doherty	P Ann Soule	Jesse Waknitz
P Lyn Muench	P Alan Clark	P Ed Bowlby	Chris Burns	Greig Arnold

**Ex-Officio Members / MRC staff/Members of the Public Present**

Jim Moran, City of Port Angeles Alternate; Debbie Schouten, private citizen; Albert Foster, private citizen; Adrienne Akmajian, Makah Tribe Biologist; Cathy Lear, Clallam MRC Coordinator; Helle Andersen, Clallam MRC Project Coordinator.

**Call to Order/Introductions/ Changes to Agenda**

During the introductions Sissi Bruch and Jim Moran informed the MRC members that they would be sharing the role of representing the City of Port Angeles. At the same time thank you cards for Bob Campbell, Ralph Riccio and Brad Collins were signed by the members.

**Public Comment/Approval of Minutes**

No public comment. The January minutes were approved.

**2018 NWSF Opportunity Fund**

Jeff Ward and Helle Andersen provided a summary of the 2018 NWSF Opportunity Fund and Clallam MRC's crabber outreach proposal to be submitted in early March. The Opportunity Fund provides up to \$10K to each of the seven MRCs. Review criteria are as follows: MRCs should demonstrate the ability to engage volunteers in the community through the proposed project. Funds cannot be used as pass-through to partnering organizations. Priority will be given to activities that: 1) demonstrate meaningful connection to marine conservation and restoration; 2) involve/collaborate with at least one other MRC; and 3) leverage additional resources (cash, in-kind support, and/or volunteer hours). The Clallam MRC proposal builds on the success of last year's crabber outreach internships and seeks funding for two crabber outreach internships in 2018. The two internships will consist of one longer-term internship and one summer internship. The main objective of the internships will be educational outreach to recreational crabbers in Clallam County. The longer-term intern will lead the coordination of the outreach events at county boat ramps, instruct the educational outreach summer intern, and assemble crabber kits similar to the 2017 kits to be handed out during the events. Clallam MRC will collaborate with Jefferson MRC who will also conduct educational outreach to crabbers in 2018. *The Clallam members decided to submit the proposal to the NWSF.*

**Oil Spill related NTAs**

John Cambalik started his talk with an introduction to the Puget Sound Recovery Plan and how the goal for the Near Term Actions (NTAs) currently being developed is to be included on the Action Agenda for the next 4 years. Organizations within the Strait LIO/ERN are working on 68 NTAs to be submitted March 30<sup>th</sup> and total for the Puget Sound area about 800 NTAs are in the works to be submitted. Because of several new Clallam MRC members John also provided a summary of the Strait LIO/ERN. About 30-40 organizations participate in the LIO/ERN and the group has quarterly informal meetings. The LIO/ERN steering group consists of seven members including Rep. Steve Tharinger, Commissioner Kate Dean, Jamestown's Natural Resources Director Hansi Hall and four

other members. In addition the LIO/ERN has a technical task force of which both Jeff Ward and Cathy Lear are members. John Cambalik is contracted through Jamestown as the LIO/ERN coordinator.

John primarily came to the meeting to ask the Clallam MRC to support two NTAs: the "Vessel Traffic Oil Spill Risk Consequences - Phase 2" to be submitted by San Juan County and the "Strait Oil Spill Prevention, Preparedness, and Response: Regional Collaboration and Involvement" to be submitted by John Cambalik through his company Strait and Sound Environmental Inc. *After a short discussion of the first NTA it was decided that Clallam MRC should contact Martha Green, the LIO Coordinator for the San Juan, and ask what would be best way to support the NTA; with an email or a letter of support.* John provided the following more detailed information about the second NTA. The NTA will span four years and has two main components 1) ensuring the Strait LIO/ERN being represented on the appropriate regional oil spill organization and 2) reviewing 12 local plans pertaining to oil spill response. Jeff Ward, Ed Bowlby and Mike Doherty have agreed to be part of the group representing the Strait LIO/ERN on the regional oil spill organization and John Cambalik and Dave Shreffler will conduct the review of the plans. The LIO/ERN steering group will be the decision maker. John asked for a support letter from the Clallam MRC and permission to include the MRC as a formal partner. *The members agreed to provide a letter of support and being a formal partner.*

During the discussion Jeff Ward provided a brief summary of the NTA that Clallam MRC will be submitting. This NTA will double our HAZWOPER and oiled wildlife trainings and expand the geographic area where these trainings takes place to include Jefferson County. *Sissi Bruch suggested that Clallam MRC reaches out to high school students to encourage their participation in the oiled wildlife training.*

### **2018 Summer Intern Program**

Adrienne Akmajian, Makah Tribe biologist, started the intern program discussion by describing the upcoming green crab internship to be funded by Clallam MRC through the 2017 Opportunity Fund. Approximately \$1,400 remained after completion of the crabber outreach internship September 2017 and after the October 2017 MRC meeting in Neah Bay the members decided to use the money to help out the Makah Tribe in their upcoming efforts to eradicate the invasive green crab on tribal land discovered during surveys in 2017. The 2018 green crab internship will target students or youth living in the Neah Bay area. Adrienne had already identified several potential candidates. The duration of the internship will be 92 hours and similar to the Clallam MRC summer intern program the internship will conclude with a presentation probably given both in Neah Bay and at the Intern Celebration in Port Angeles. Adrienne has had some questions and concerns about how the internship would be managed and how liability would be covered. However, after receiving the 2017 crabber outreach contract and talking with Caroline Gibson, NWSF, her questions and concerns had been addressed. She plans to advertise the position in April and hire a student by end of May.

Jeff Ward and Helle Andersen went through the list of potential projects for the 2018 summer internships. The projects include kelp monitoring, West Elwha Beach usage surveys and educational outreach, pigeon guillemot monitoring and shellfish biotoxin monitoring at Pillar Point. Last year the students were paid \$15/hr for 80 hours. Jeff pointed out that last year an intern dropped out of the program because she had "overbooked" herself to supplement the 80 hours provided by Clallam MRC with other internships and that a possibility would be to offer a fewer number of students more hours. *After a discussion the Clallam MRC members decided to offer three paid internships of 100 hours to work on the kelp, West Elwha Beach and pigeon guillemot projects. The members with help from volunteers will conduct the biotoxin sampling at Pillar Point. Helle will write up the final descriptions of the three 2018 summer internships to be finalized at the next MRC meeting March 19<sup>th</sup>.*

### **NWSC Update**

Alan Clark covered several topics in the NWSC update. The final review of the 2-4 finalists for the Executive Director position is expected to be completed by March 30<sup>th</sup>. The NWSC is currently hiring a temporary ecosystem coordinator. Jeff and Alan will be going to the NWSC retreat March 1-3. Lucas

Hart has organized a kelp workshop to be held in Seattle March 20<sup>th</sup>; because space is limited only one member from each MRC can participate. The MRC Conference to be held November 16-17 at Fort Worden will celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NWSI. *If you are interested in helping out with the planning of the celebration and event please contact Sasha Horst.*

### **Website Update**

Helle Andersen provided a brief update on the website update. Clallam MRC's website is getting a little outdated and the NWSC has decided to update it so that it will be similar to several of the other MRCs including Jefferson MRC. The update should be completed by March 5<sup>th</sup>. In connection with the update new pictures are needed of several of the members because the old pictures are of poor quality. *Ann Soule suggested that the members remember to take pictures and video of MRC events.*

### **Project Updates**

Oil Spill Preparedness: The annual HAZWOPER training was held February 10 in Port Angeles City Council Chambers. A total of 33 volunteers participated in the training. The format of the training was greatly improved as it was changed to a classroom experience based on a fictional oil spill near Victoria B.C. Jeff Ward explained to the members that the month of March 2018 had been declared oil spill preparedness month because the Clallam MRC has three oil spill related events in that month and he asked if they would support having the Clallam County Commissioners issue a proclamation to that effect. *The members supported the proclamation.*

Elwha Beach: Helle Andersen told the members that during visits to Elwha Beach to ensure that bags are in the dog waste bag dispenser surveys of dog poops along the 300 yard dike road usually pick up between 25-28 poops weighing in around 4.5 lbs.

### **Good of the Order**

Replacement of Clallam MRC Officials: With Brad Collins and Bob Campbell leaving the Clallam MRC Jeff Ward asked for two volunteers to fill the Vice-Chair and NWSC Alternate positions until the annual election in May. Sissi Bruch volunteered to take over the position as Vice-Chair and Jeff Ward volunteered to be the NWSC Alternate.

Olympia Oyster Field Trip: *On Thursday April 3rd at 2:15 pm Lyn Muench and Jamestown biologists will visit the two test plots at Cline Spit to look at survival rates. All Clallam MRC members are welcome to join.*

Off-Shore Oil Drilling Proposal: Arnold Schouten asked if the Clallam MRC would consider supporting a resolution opposing the proposed off shore oil drilling. MRCs along the outer coast have all supported the resolution. Jeff Ward suggested the Clallam MRC waited to see if the three Clallam County Commissioners will sign the resolution tomorrow. The outcome of the vote would make it easier for the MRC members to decide what to do.

John Gussman Drone Film: Bob Vreeland had recently seen a drone presentation by John Gussman and he was quite impressed with the presentation and the possibilities drones could offer the MRC. *He suggested that the Clallam MRC ask John Gussman to present at one of our meetings.* In that connection Albert Foster pointed out that we could purchase and promote the film "the Return of the River" in potential exchange for drone work.

Members Leaving the Clallam MRC: Brad Collins, one of three members leaving the MRC, was present at the meeting and at the end of the meeting Jeff Ward gave him a certificate of appreciation, a signed thank you letter from Clallam MRC and a farewell card signed by the MRC members. Jeff thanked Brad for his 13 years' of service to the MRC.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.