


CLALLAM COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes

Date: Monday May 21, 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	P Robert Knapp	P Arnold Schouten	P 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	P Chris Burns	Greig Arnold

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

Peggy McClure, City of Sequim Alternate; Chris Burns Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe Alternate; Tarrell Kullaway, NWSF Director of Philanthropy; Elizabeth Dunne, resident; Tyson Minck, resident; Cathy Lear, Clallam MRC Coordinator; Helle Andersen, Clallam MRC Project Coordinator.

Call to Order/Introductions/ Changes to Agenda

Ed Bowlby encouraged the members to sign the sign-up sheet that he had brought for the Initiative Measure No. 1631. The website update was postponed to a later date and replaced with an update on the oyster farm proposal at Dungeness Spit.

Public Comment/Approval of Minutes

No public comment. The April minutes were approved.

Introduction of Tarrell Kullaway, NWSF Director of Philanthropy

Tarrell Kullaway introduced herself as the new NWSF Director of Philanthropy and briefly summarized her 25 years of experiences as a fundraiser. She most recently served as Senior Director of Development for the Cascade Bicycle Club during their successful capital campaign. Prior to Cascade, she got to know many of our partners serving as the Director of Development for Washington Environmental Council and Washington Conservation Voters. Tarrell also provided a brief summary of the NWSF and the work they do. The NWSF is a nonprofit organization established to leverage additional financial resources to accomplish the work of the Initiative. The NWSF raises private and public funds and also manages large regional projects such as the removal of derelict fishing gear and restoration of many shoreline sites. Jeff Ward summarized the outcomes of the pre-meeting which started an hour before the regular meeting. At the pre-meeting Tarrell asked what the members would like to have done to raise the profile of the Clallam MRC in the community. Several ideas were introduced including: a “friendraiser” event at the Harbinger Winery in October, production of a video about the Clallam MRC, brochures to be handed out to the public such as on the whale watching boats, reaching out to local businesses such as Swains (a place “everybody” goes to), sponsoring film showings with the NWSF taking the lead in lining up the films, sponsoring a local wine label with the Clallam MRC logo included, and engaging 20 local businesses for our 20 year anniversary in 2019. Tarrell concluded the discussion by encouraging all the members to contact her if they have any ideas about how to get the word out about the Clallam MRC.

Election of Clallam MRC Officers

The following Clallam MRC members were elected as officers until May 2019:
 Jeff Ward – Chair; Ed Bowlby – Vice-Chair; Alan Clark – NWSC Representative; Sissie Bruch – NWSC Representative Alternate.

Final NWSC Proposal

Since the last meeting comments to the individual proposed projects provided by the 2017-18 project leads had been incorporated into the final NWSC proposal. The final steps before submitting the proposal May 22nd were to identify project leads for 2018-19 and reach consensus about the distribution of the \$75K projected grant fund. The 2018-19 project leads are as followed:

Kelp - Alan Clark assisted by Jeff Ward

Forage Fish - Ed Bowlby assisted by Alan Clark and Mike McHenry

Pigeon Guillemot - Ed Bowlby assisted by Jeff Ward and Kathy Cooper

Biotoxin - Bob Vreeland assisted by Jeff Ward and Kathy Cooper

Oil Spill Preparedness - Arnold Schouten assisted by Ed Bowlby and Mike Doherty

Education Outreach - Lyn Muench, Alan Clark, and Arnold Schouten will co-lead this task, assisted by Jeff Ward and Mike Doherty. Arnold Schouten will be the lead on the Elwha Beach Stewardship Project.

Olympia Oyster Restoration - Lyn Muench assisted by Chris Burns and Robert Knapp

The Clallam MRC members agreed to the following 2018-19 budget:

Administration \$58K; Monitoring \$1,300 (Kelp \$700, Pigeon Guillemot, Shellfish Biotoxin and Forage Fish \$200 each); Oil Spill Preparedness \$4K; Education Outreach \$10,450 (Outreach & Education \$7,500, Transboundary Citizen Science Outreach \$800, Marine Debris Removal \$600 and Elwha Beach Stewardship \$1,550) and Olympia Oyster restoration \$1,250.

At the end of the discussion Jeff Ward informed the members that the NWSF had been awarded the NOAA Marine Debris Removal grant and that NOAA had awarded the grant for three, not two years. Jason Morgan has just turned in the revised budget. As part of this grant Jefferson and Clallam MRCs will be performing the educational outreach to the community. Because the recreational crabber outreach starting in 2019 will be covered through the NOAA grant the educational outreach was removed from the 2018-19 NWSC proposal.

2018 Internships

Jeff Ward gave an update on the 2018 internship program. Clallam MRC received 12 applications for the five summer internships and the longer-termed crabber outreach internship. In addition, the Makah Tribe received two applications for the green crab removal internship. Because one of the Makah applicants lives in Port Angeles it was decided to offer the internship to Cole Svec who lives in Neah Bay and include the other applicant in the Clallam MRC pool of applicants. The review committee which includes Jeff Ward, Ed Bowlby, Alan Clark, Arnold Schouten, Lyn Muench and Peggy McClure will review the 13 applications. The first task is to identify two candidates for the longer-termed internship which is slated to commence June 1st. *The review committee agreed to identify the two candidates by Friday May 25th. Helle Andersen will set up time for phone interviews with the two candidates after Memorial Day based on the candidates availability but assuming it will be in the evening either May 30th or 31st.* The next task will be to identify seven candidates of the remaining 12 applicants for phone interviews for the five summer intern positions.

NWSC Update

Alan Clark is now the NWSC Vice-Chair and one of the functions is to be the chair for the WebEx calls. Alan expects it to be a steep learning curve, but he is looking forward to the challenge. One of the tasks the NWSC is working on is fundraising. Because of the current federal funding climate the NWSC would like to increase funding from the state and move away from relying on federal funding. One way to achieve this is to reach out to local government and local politicians such as Patty Murray to make them aware of the Initiative and the seven MRCs. The MRC Conference in November will celebrate the 20 year anniversary of the Initiative. The conference committee is working on identifying

ways to make it a big event. The event will provide a good opportunity to introduce new outreach materials for the seven MRCs. Tarrell interjected that the conference also provides an excellent opportunity to tell the story about the Initiative and help spreading the word about the good work done by the seven MRCs.

Executive Committee Creation

Jeff Ward proposed the creation of an Executive Committee. The subcommittee would have four members (current chair and vice chair, recent past chair, NWSC representative) and one ex-officio member (Helle or Cathy) to capture meeting notes and share with the full membership as part of the regular monthly meeting packet. The group would participate in either in-person meetings or conference calls at least once per month. Additional meetings would be scheduled as needed, and MRC members would be invited to participate when applicable. The overall purpose of the executive committee would be to:

1. Assist in planning MRC meetings, developing ideas for public outreach, and coordinating scheduled public interactions or events.
2. Take the initial lead in investigating emerging issues that come along (e.g. large-scale proposals or projects involving the nearshore) prior to involving the entire group.
3. Assist in general MRC management and leadership, including recruiting of new members or citizen volunteers and investigating or implementing ideas that come from the general membership.

The current Executive Committee would include Jeff Ward, Ed Bowlby (vice-chair and also recent past chair), Alan Clark and Helle Andersen. The Clallam MRC members approved the creation of the Executive Committee.

Jamestown Oyster Farm Proposal at Dungeness Spit

Robert Knapp gave an update on the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe’s oyster farm proposal at Dungeness Spit. During the April meeting Ralph Riccio gave a presentation about the proposal. With recent improvements in water quality, the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe proposes to farm oysters on 34 acres of the 50-acre parcel that they have leased from DNR for the last 28 years. Jamestown has been working through the permit process with several agencies including the Corps of Engineers. During the public review period the Corps of Engineers questioned the no significant impacts determination of the project and requested a biological assessment to be conducted under the National Permit Process. The Clallam County Department of Community Development withdrew its environmental determination of non-significance the day after the county hearing examiner granted the tribe’s request for the six-month permitting-process delay to accommodate the change in permitting by the Army Corp of Engineers. Conducting the biological assessment will delay the project for about ½ year. *The members decided to delay the letter to the commissioners until after the biological assessment. The letter will be written by the subcommittee consisting of Alan Clark, Ed Bowlby, Jeff Ward, and Lyn Muench.*

Project Updates

Olympia Oyster Restoration: Lyn Muench and Chris Burns provided an update on the Olympia oyster restoration. April 18th Liz Tobin and Chris Burns, Jamestown Shellfish Biologists, Ed Bowlby and Helle Andersen conducted a survey of the two test plots at Cline Spit which was established last year. Unfortunately, the site on Bob Phreaner’s tideland proved to be unsuitable for Olympia oysters. The test plot which consisted of the seeded shells still in the bag was fine, but the other plot where the seeded shells had been spread in a 1 m radius was no longer visible – the shells had been scattered all over the beach. Chris Burns suggested expanding the Olympia oyster restoration area at the head of Sequim Bay by using an area that Jamestown Tribe leases from DNR for experimental purposes. The area is about ½ - ¾ acre and is located about 150 ft. east of the current area where the 100 bags of seeded shells have been overwintering. Chris provided a map showing the proposed area. If the Clallam MRC supported this effort Chris proposed to move the bags over to the new area using a skiff

at high tide. *The Clallam MRC approved the proposed area and suggested that Chris identified dates and times where the MRC members and volunteers could help opening the bags and spreading the seeded shells.*

Forage Fish Monitoring: Ed Bowlby and Helle Andersen gave a brief update on the forage fish sampling effort. The location at Cline Spit was sampled May 16th and the two locations at Elwha Beach and the two locations on Ediz Hook were sampled May 15th. *Ed Asked Jeff Ward if we are still pursuing permission from PNNL to sample at Washington Harbor. Jeff said he would look into the permission process.*

Pigeon Guillemot Monitoring: Ed Bowlby provided an update on the 2018 monitoring season. The volunteer training May 11 went well with about 25-30 people participating. The project now has about 50 volunteers to conduct the 2018 breeding surveys. The surveys will commence June 11th. One of the summer interns will help coordinate the volunteers and help with the online data entry submission.

Shellfish Biotxin: Bob Vreeland informed the members that samples were collected at Pillar Point May 2nd and May 16th. The crew plans to sample twice a month June through September.

Good of the Order

Mike Doherty and Jeff Ward gave a brief summary of the CANUSPAC workshop held in Port Angeles. The workshops goal was to review and practice the standard joint response operations under the Canadian/US Pacific Annex to the Canada/United States Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan. The regional response communities from both Canada and the United States have worked closely to produce a joint response exercise that addresses issues of common interest. The workshop continued the work from a 2016 workshop with a focus on Tribal/First Nations engagement in response and planning in the US and Canada. The workshop used the same oil spill drill example as was used in the 2018 HAZWOPER training. The Makah Tribe already has an oil spill contingency plan in place. At the meeting Jeff was informed that Department of Ecology plans to update the GRPs for the Strait of Juan de Fuca in the near future. *Some of the members suggested that we contact MSRC for a site visit.*

Cathy Lear informed the members that Chris Duff is offering kayak rescue training over the Memorial Day weekend.

Arnold Schouten suggested that the Clallam MRC reaches out to IOSA to complete the new oiled wildlife class format by end of the year.

Public Comment

Elizabeth and Tyson interested in helping out on the Elwha Beach Stewardship project.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.