

CLALLAM  COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes

Date: Friday July 20, 2018
 Time: 5:00 – 7:00 pm
 Location: Makah Marina Conference Room
 Minutes prepared by Helle Andersen

Members present:

P = Present E= Excused

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

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

Tami Pokorny, NPC MRC Coordinator; Lucas Hart, NWSC Executive Director; Cole Svec, 2018 intern; Patricia Sternback, Makah Environmental Health Project Lead; Katie Wrubel, Makah Natural Resources Policy Analyst; Rylan MacDonald, 2018 intern; Lael Butler, 2018 intern; Helle Andersen, Clallam MRC Project Coordinator.

Welcome by the Makah Tribe

Greig Arnold welcomed the MRC members and interns to the meeting. Unfortunately, he was not able to sing a tribal song because several tribal members were in mourning.

Call to Order/Introductions/ Changes to Agenda

Helle Andersen added information on a community hero video competition to the good of the order.

Public Comment/Approval of Minutes

No public comments. The June minutes were approved.

Highlights of Current Clallam MRC Project

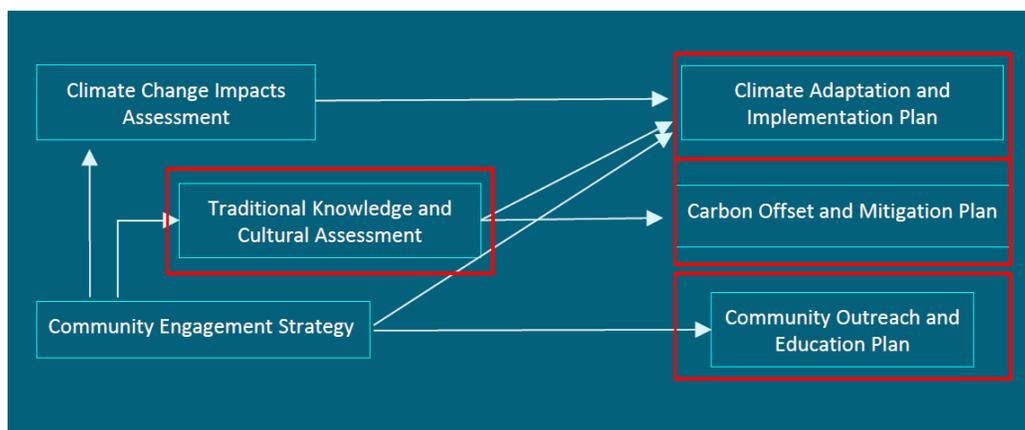
During an excellent salmon dinner Jeff Ward gave the presentation for the 2018-19 NWSC grant application about the Elwha Beach Stewardship. The presentation takes the audience through the history of the dam removal, the formation of the new beach, Clallam MRC’s involvement throughout the years in protecting the beach, the summer interns’ usage surveys, tasks to be completed in 2018-19 and potential ways to secure a long-term stewardship to address emerging issues at the West Elwha Beach. After the presentation the participants had a short discussion about addressing the issues associated with dogs.

Highlights of Current Makah Projects

Patricia Sternback, the Project Lead for the Makah Environmental Health, gave an update on the Warmhouse Beach Dump Superfund Site cleanup. The site lies within the Makah Indian Reservation and includes an inactive dump about 7 acres in size, with waste as deep as 20 ft. in some areas. Municipal and household solids and hazardous wastes were disposed of at the site from the 1970s until 2012. The dump was used by the Makah Air Force Station, Indian Health Services, US Coast Guard, the Makah Tribe, and other local and non-local residents and other entities such as the Cape Flattery School District. The site is within the Olympic National Marine Sanctuary which provides habitat for 29 species of marine mammals and 90 species of marine birds. The Makah Tribe has been monitoring surface water, sediment and groundwater around the dump since 2001 and in 2009 the tribe petitioned EPA to conduct environmental assessments of the dump because of concerns about hazardous substances leaching out from the dump. In 2013 the site was listed on the Superfund National Priority List. The first step in the Superfund process after listing on the site is the remedial investigation. The Warmhouse Beach Dump is currently at this step which includes delineating the nature and extent of the contamination and assessing the risks to people and the environment. The following steps include the feasibility study which describes

and compares cleanup alternatives, the proposed cleanup plan, the record of decision, remedial design, and finally remedial action cleanup of the site.

Katie Wrubel, Natural Resource Policy Analyst for the Makah Tribe, gave a presentation on the tribe's climate change project. The Makah Tribe views climate change as one of the biggest threats to their natural resources and the rich and unique biodiversity of their coastal lands and waters, their livelihoods, economy, and culture. In 2014 they commenced a climate change assessment and from the assessment the following lessons were learned: the dense, highly technical review of literature found that it was written by scientists for scientists, there was a lack of traditional and cultural knowledge expressed in the literature and there was a lack of planning relevancy. How does a vulnerability assessment translate into an adaptation plan? And how can an adaptation plan be implemented? Part of the assessment included a workshop with more than 20 core team members and advisors. One of the outcomes of the workshop was a climate adaption logic model.



The climate impacts assessment includes a review of current western science for consensus climate impacts relevant to Makah focusing on the following five sections: terrestrial, marine, aquatic, infrastructure, and health. Another task is a species vulnerability assessment in which they compile a 2-page description for each species' vulnerability to projected climate change impacts for the almost 100 species in the area. Finally they are conducting an assessment of Makah traditional ecological knowledge which includes interviewing Makah tribal members on how cultural activities have been impacted over time.

As part of climate adaptation and planning the Makah Tribal Council and tribal natural resource managers have prioritized early community outreach and engagement efforts in order to accomplish three goals: continually update and inform the tribal community about the Tribe's climate adaptation efforts; gather community input and priorities to inform the Makah Climate Adaptation Plan; and provide a series of educational events to engage the tribal community about projected climate change impacts to our resources. The first community dinner was held in February 2017. Members of the climate change workgroup discussed ongoing and future work and people were asked to take the community survey. A total of 200 community members came to the event and 140 responded to the survey. Some of the main concerns were freshwater availability and impacts to fisheries.

Future community events are planned for 2018 and 2019. Next steps include traditional ecological knowledge assessment and community outreach efforts, climate change workgroup to discuss potential climate impacts internally and with tribal community, identify short-term and long-term strategies to build resilience, identify ways to reduce our impact and strategize how to secure funding resources to implement. Two climate adaptation strategies are currently underway: securing funds to alter fishing fleet engines to become more sustainable and emit less greenhouse gases and changing old woodstoves for newer, more efficient woodstoves for community members. Future strategies include scoping of water supply, carbon footprint analysis and carbon sequestration (restoring eelgrass, trees, and kelp habitats to store carbon).

Cole Svec, the Clallam MRC sponsored intern, gave a presentation on the Makah's green crab removal project. Green crabs were discovered near Neah Bay in fall 2017 and starting April 2018 the Makah Tribe initiated an intensive trapping effort. Currently the tribe is setting about 60 minnow and Fukui traps in areas of the Wa'atch and Tsoo-Yess rivers and along the shore of Neah Bay twice a month. Captured green crab are recorded by sex, color, size, location, missing limbs, and molt and pictures are taken before the crab is placed in a plastic bag and stored in a freezer. Between April 25th and July 7 a total of 581 green crabs have been captured (the total number of crabs after trapping July 20 was around 660). The majority of these crabs were male (about 69%). The trapping effort will continue until end of September. After completion of the 2018 trapping season the tribe will determine the abundance of green crab catch per unit effort and establish a plan for next year's trapping effort. At the end of his presentation Cole thanked the Clallam MRC and the NWSC for funding his internship.

MRC Feedback on the NWS Initiative Strategic Plan

Because of all the interesting presentations Lucas Hart, the NWSC Executive Director, did not have much time to cover the Northwest Strait Initiative's five-year strategic plan covering 2019-2023. The plan is currently a draft and Lucas was looking for input and comments to the five main components of the plan. The five main components are: 1) long term stable funding, 2) structural support to MRCs, 3) measuring progress, 4) engagement and diversification, and 5) messaging. Most of the comments from the members addressed the engagement and diversification components and included rephrasing the strategies to emphasize building partnerships, identifying shared values (not priorities) and stewardship of resources. If you have any comments/suggestions to the draft strategic plan please contact Lucas at hart@nwstraits.org or 360-391-7190.

Salish Sea Shared Waters Forum

Tami Pokorny, the coordinator for the NPC MRC, provided a brief summary of the upcoming Salish Sea Shared Waters Forum, October 3 and 4, at the Four Point Sheraton in Bellingham. The purpose of the forum is to exchange information to enhance oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response measures to minimize the risk and impacts of spills in the Salish Sea. The forum will serve as a platform for open dialogue for all levels of government from both sides of the border, including Transport Canada, the U.S. and Canadian Coast Guards, Tribes and First Nations, environmental groups, and industry. It will address issues such as navigational safety, data sharing, and the impacts of spills on the environment, Tribal and First Nation resources, the economy, and public health. This forum will provide a platform to discuss and share ideas on these and other issues related to vessel traffic. The event is free and open to the public. For more information see <http://oilspilltaskforce.org/task-force-events/salish-sea-forum/>

Good of the Order

Helle Andersen handed out a flyer encouraging 9-12 graders to apply for the Community Hero Video Competition. As you may remember last November Deborah Moriarty talked about the Surfrider Leadership Academy and her group's goal to make a video competition. The flyer asks the 9-12 graders to make a video showcasing an individual from their community who stands out as somebody who makes a difference. The announcement will go out August 1st and the submission deadline is October 1, 2018. The videos will be judged by each of the MRCs in a given county (so Clallam MRC will be judging all videos made by students in the Clallam County). The winner in each county will be awarded \$250. The five winning videos will be shown at the MRC Summit in October and the grand winner will be awarded \$500. Contact Helle Andersen for more information.

Arnold Schouten has been asked to represent Surfrider at a public access meeting to be held at Place Road. Arnold was asking permission from the members to also represent the Clallam MRC. The request was granted.

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.