

CLALLAM  COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes

Date: Monday, January 28, 2019
 Time: 5:30 – 7:10 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	Jesse Waknitz
P Sissi Bruch	P Jeff Ward	P Mike Doherty	P Ann Soule	Greig Arnold
E Lyn Muench	E Alan Clark	P Ed Bowlby	P Pete Schroeder	Open Position

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

Peggy McClure, City of Sequim Alternate; Chris Burns, Jamestown Tribe Alternate; Coleman Byrnes, Resident; Susan Vezeau, Presenter from Department of Ecology; John Cambalik, Strait ERN/LIO Coordinator; Cathy Lear, Clallam MRC Coordinator; Helle Andersen, Clallam MRC Project Coordinator.

Call to Order/Introductions/ Changes to Agenda

None

Public Comment/Approval of Minutes

No public comments. The December minutes were approved.

Strait of Juan de Fuca GRP Update

Susan Vezeau from Department of Ecology began her presentation with mentioning two oil spill related topics. March 21-23 Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe is hosting a 24-hr HAZWOPER training in Blyn. The training is open to all. A grant is now available through Department of Ecology for oil spill equipment. All four tribes along the Strait of Juan de Fuca plan to apply. Susan suggested partnerships and pointed out that fire departments are always ranked high in the evaluation process. For further information contact Lora Hayes, the grant coordinator at Ecology. Arnold Schouten interjected that the 8-hr HAZWOPER training in Port Angeles will take place March 2nd.

Susan started her presentation with a brief summary of her background in underwater archeology and park management. After working on the Deepwater Horizon oil spill she became a Preparedness Planner for Ecology's Spills Prevention, Preparedness & Response Program focusing on updating the GRPs in Washington State. As oil began to be moved by rail the first task was to develop new GRPs along the railroads and the number of GRPs increased from 27 in 2014 to 42 in 2017. Susan is now tasked with updating the GRPs along the Strait of Juan de Fuca which haven't been updated for a very long time. Ecology's goal is to update the GRPs on a 5-year cycle. Susan then provided an overview of GRPs, how they are annexes to the contingency plans and provide information on sensitive resources to help direct response actions during the initial hours of response. Sensitive resources span a wide array of topics from cultural and natural resources to water intakes and water depended facilities. The current GRPs include five chapters; introduction, site description, spill response options and considerations, response strategies and priorities, and resources at risk. The latter chapter is primarily written by WDFW and USFWS. Most important Chapter 4 includes a 'two-pager' for each the identified sensitive areas which contains all the information needed for early responders including site pictures, driving directions, deployment strategies and more. Ecology is currently in the process to evaluate the old format to determine "what should stay and what should go." Susan asked for help with information for Chapter 2 (site description) and also with reviewing the draft GRPs once they have been completed in May 2019. The goal is to complete the GRPs for Strait of Juan de Fuca by December 2019. Ecology's website contains a lot of useful information on the

GRPs in Washington State: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Plans-policies/Contingency-planning-for-oil-industry/Geographic-response-plans-for-oil-spills>.

2019-24 Strategic Plan

Jeff Ward provided a brief introduction to the strategic plan and asked for last comments. The plan was approved as amended following a short discussion about wording in a small section of the introduction, deleting Surfrider Foundation in the list of partners but keeping the Olympic Peninsula Surfrider Chapter, and revising the format of the document. Peggy McClure asked who will receive the plan and how the Clallam MRC intends to publish the document. A short discussion followed about whether to give the complete strategic plan to the County Commissioners, City Councils and Port of Port Angeles or create a 2 page summary to hand out. The 2019-2024 strategic plan will be posted on Clallam MRC's website.

State Funding Letter

Jeff Ward gave a brief background of the state funding letter before asking about any revisions before voting to approve the letter. The state is currently funding 44% of the NWSC/MRC budget. The funding ends this year and the letter, which will be submitted to the legislators by counties and city councils, urge the legislators to restore state funding to the NWSC during the 2019 Legislative session. Unfortunately Kevin Ranker is no longer a senator so the people that NWSC is working with in Olympia has changed. County Commissioner Mark Ozias has stated that he is willing to sign and submit the letter. The letter was approved as amended after a brief discussion where Mike Doherty and Pete Schroeder suggested including text about the Orca Task Force. Ann Soule suggested that the MRC presents before the Sequim City Council before asking if they will be willing to sign and submit the letter. Sissi Bruch, mayor for Port Angeles City Council, agreed that this was a good approach. It was decided that Jeff Ward and Ed Bowlby will give presentations for the City of Port Angeles February 19th and City of Sequim March 18th. The presentations would also be a way to inform the community about the newly developed 2019-24 strategic plan. *Peggy McClure, Cathy Lear and Helle Andersen volunteered to help with the presentation.*

Topics for the Internship Program

Helle Andersen initiated the conversation about this year's internship program by informing the members about the different funding sources. In the 2018-19 NWSC grant we have set aside \$6,000 for four internships. The 2018 MRC Opportunity Fund is now closed – we cannot ask to use the remaining funds that we did not spend similar to what we did in summer of 2018. The RFP for the 2019 MRC Opportunity Fund will become available sometime in February. Tarrell Kullaway of NWSF expects the turn-around time to be the same as last year so about one month and that each MRC can expect to receive the requested money either in April or early May. The funding cycle for the NWSF Pilot Fellowship Program will be similar to the MRC Opportunity Fund so we can expect the RFP sometime in February and, if awarded, receiving the money in April or early May. Tarrell stated that the current draft version of the program offers three paid fellowships. The fellows will work with the MRC over a four to six-month period with 200 paid hours. All MRCs can apply for the fellowships, so we could be seven contenders for three fellowships. Because of the funding cycles the internships funded by these sources cannot start before probably early June.

The members began discussing potential projects for the internships and decided on the following four projects for the summer internships: pigeon guillemot monitoring, green crab trapping and removal combined with Olympia oyster restoration, kelp monitoring, and educational outreach to recreational crabbers. Two interns should work on educational outreach to recreational crabbers and fund for these internships may come from the NOAA marine debris grant that the NWSF was awarded last fall. Clallam MRC will learn more about this possible funding source Friday February 1st at a meeting with Jason Morgan from NWSF. The members decided to apply for the NWSF Pilot Fellowship for a video production intern. The video should focus on the work done by Clallam MRC and the internship should target students at Port Angeles high school. The following MRC members joined a subcommittee to help with the 2019 internship program: Bob Vreeland, Ed Bowlby, Alan Clark, Jeff Ward, Arnold Schouten, and Peggy McClure. *Helle was tasked with sending out a Doodle Poll for the first subcommittee meeting.*

Before moving on to the next topic Helle suggested using part of the 2019 MRC Opportunity Fund on purchasing shells for the Olympia oyster restoration project. The suggestion was well received by the members.

February Meeting

The members decided to have the meeting Monday February 25, 2019.

Good of the Order

Helle Andersen reminded the members of the importance of providing their volunteers hours. Robert Knapp raised the question about the members who are getting paid for the time they spend on the MRC. It was suggested that maybe that should be tracked as “agency match.” *Helle will contact the NWSC and ask how these hours should be tracked.*

Sissi Bruch informed the members that the City of Port Angeles will have the first climate action meeting January 30th at 2:00pm in PA City Council Chamber. Ian Miller will present on the impacts that are currently known for our city and region, and Stacey Nordgren, a managing partner with Foresight Partners Consulting, will give a presentation on the process for climate action planning that was just recently done for Bainbridge Island.

Ed Bowlby told the members about four upcoming events: March 2nd is the annual 8-hr HAZWOPER training in Port Angeles, January 31st 5-7 pm Jamestown Tribe will give a presentation about oyster farming at the River Center and Pete Schroeder and Ed are currently planning the Orca Forum for Friday May 10th to coincide with the Celebration of Science and technology on May 11th. Ed is expecting that the Clallam MRC will staff a booth again this year at the celebration.

Arnold Schouten informed the members that the oiled wildlife training hosted by Clallam MRC will take place April 27th in Pioneer Park, Sequim.

Mike Doherty informed the members that SeaGrant has released RFP with a due date of mid-February. The grant is for \$2 million.

Bob Vreeland asked the members whether any shellfish grower in Clallam County is using the pesticide imidacloprid currently under review. It was agreed that nobody in Clallam County is using this pesticide which is used in Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay to control the populations of burrowing shrimps.

Ann Soule told the members that the Dungeness Reservoir project had received \$4 million in funding.

Robert Knapp told the members about a speaker series at the River Center. In honor of Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe recognition day on February 11th, the center is dedicating the month of February to learning more about the people who have lived and prospered on the Olympic Peninsula for more than 10,000 years. Friday, February 8th: “Western Red Cedar, Importance to Salmon” Robert Knapp – Environmental Planning Program Manager. Friday, February 15th: “Historical Relationships between S’Klallam People and Cedar.” – David Brownell – Cultural Resources Specialist. Friday, February 22nd: “X̣páy – Western Red Cedar, the Tree of Life” – Lisa Barrell & Mackenzie Grinnell – Traditional Foods Program. All presentations are free and start at 5:30 pm.

Public Comment

John Cambalik reminded the members about the quarterly ERN/LIO meeting in Blyn February 22nd. At the last meeting the members decided to give the \$100,000 grant to the Clallam County stormwater management plan NTA.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.