

Clallam MRC Retreat

October 26, 2019

Notes

Attending:

Alan Clark

Ann Soule

Arnold Schouten

Bob Vreeland

Cathy Lear

Ed Bowlby

Helle Andersen

Jeff Ward

Lyn Muench

Mike Doherty

Robert Knapp

Sissi Bruch

Tim Cochnauer

Pre-Retreat Handout:

**Clallam Marine Resources Committee Retreat
Sat., October 26, 2019
Doherty Cabin at Lake Crescent, 301 Barnes Point Rd.**

Pre-Retreat Homework:

- Review NWSC Strategic Plan, goals for MRCs, and County authorizing resolution (1999)
- Email Ann with concurrence or suggested changes to our **Vision and Mission**
- Bring a **photo or other visual illustration** that represents your personal motivation for being involved with the Clallam MRC
- Consider carpooling!

Bring:

- Your **picture/illustration**
- Stuff to make yourself comfortable (water bottle, travel mug, slippers, seat cushion, etc.)
- A **lunch potluck dish** per Helle's sign-up sheet
- Rain jacket/ warmth layers and shoes for walking outside on breaks and after
- Your own notes and documents if you wish, but we'll be bringing all these:
 - CMRC Vision, mission (and reference copies of the entire 5-year Strategic Plan)
 - 2019-2024 NWSC Strategic Plan, Mission/Vision, Goals/Themes for MRCs
 - Bylaws and Staff Role docs
 - Proposed 2020 Work Plan
 - Key partnerships doc

Set up FYI: Coffee and snacks provided, the cabin is heated with kitchen/bathrooms, etc., plenty of chairs, etc.

- *OPTIONAL: Mike and Paula have 2 kayaks and 1 canoe available, and a fire pit, horseshoes, and walking trails, AND Lake Crescent Lodge is a short walk or paddle away, with a lovely lounge, closed-in sunporch and excellent dining room for dinner. Bring your gear of choice (credit card?) if you're interested in an outdoor activity post-retreat!*

AGENDA SUMMARY: (Thanks to Lyn, Alan, and Sissi for assistance!)

9:30	Arrive, get settled, etc. coffee and snack
	Start promptly at 10:00
10:00	INTRO / Getting on The Same Page
11:00	THEME 1, Clarify/confirm direction/ goals
12:00	>> BREAK << Potluck Lunch
12:30	THEME 2, Clarify outside agency involvement
1:00	THEME 3 (first part), Improve participation and get help
2:00	THEME 3 (con't), Identify new leadership for the future
3:00	Adjourn, take group photo

Note: Photos of all easel summary sheets are included in Appendix A and a few photos of the retreat are at the end of this summary.

Introduction/Ice Breaker (Ann)

Members posted images that represented “why they are involved with the MRC” on a large sheet (with “Whereas...” written at top). (See photo; the sheet includes images of interns, a beach with kelp, the food web, an orca drawing, a climate crisis flyer, and a grandson’s inspirational social media post, among other things including a tiny native canoe with clam and mussel shells.)

A warm-up exercise involved three groups identifying 10 things they had in common (beside MRC and science), results follow:

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
All men	Hikers	Belief that a healthy env. can result in a healthy economy
All been in Alaska	Have siblings	Appreciation for people who serve in community or politics
All Environmental jobs	Careers very different	Appreciation for integrity
All science degrees	Love to kayak	Passion for wildlife
Like nature	Prefer to be outdoors to understand	Love the outdoors
Moved here from somewhere else	Born elsewhere	Committed to giving back to community
Like to eat	Mexican food	Committed to the env.
All Toyota	Blues – we love it!	Committed to the future generation
All above average		Committed to educating the public about env.
All married		
All have undies		

After the warm-up Ann asked the group to agree on:

Goals of the Retreat coming from member input in September included:

- Get everyone on the same page with regard to direction and goals
- Revitalize the group with motivated and committed members
- Activate our advisory role
- Make us confident that we will make progress toward our mission and vision

Plus, the agenda, our process including the “Parking lot” for off-topic notes, and ground rules emphasizing creativity, use of the Doherty gavel as a talking stick if needed, and having realistic expectations (and adding “Have fun!”).

Review of CMRC Vision, Mission & Goals (Jeff)

[Handouts: NWSC Strategic Plan “one-sheet”, NWSC Goals for MRCs, CMRC Mission/Vision/Goals and projects, with membership list on back]

The following changes were suggested to the mission vision statement and goals (relined).

VISION STATEMENT

CCMRC’s vision is a healthy ~~and protected~~ marine ecosystem for future generations.

MISSION STATEMENT AND GOALS

CCMRC’s mission is to develop projects that achieve the following goals:

- Goal 1: Protect and restore Clallam and other jurisdictions* ~~marine nearshore~~ ecosystems
- Goal 2: Use science to support decision-making
- Goal 3: Promote environmental stewardship.

Other comments to the mission and goal wording included:

- Add result column for our goals (similar to NWSC strategic plan sheet)
- Do they align enough with NWSC goals?
- Are they local enough? (*Relates to adding “Clallam and...” to Goal 1; skip or be specific?)
- Should we also be assisting in creating MPAs?

No final decisions were made to address these revisions or comments. (Action – Topic for future meeting.)

Jeff emphasized that the group should keep in mind the timeline...next 20 years – legacy issues.

Theme 1. Clarify Workplan/Direction/Goals (Alan, Ann)

Members reviewed the NWSC “strategic plan” which lists its mission and goals – and anticipated results to the right of each – plus our current project list (handout). Members brainstormed what is missing in order to align with NWSC’s goals and/or needed to implement our mission; a few items were added to our lists. Before/ during lunch members completed the dot exercise: each member got two green, yellow and red dot stickers for each of three Goals (6 of each color). Green dots indicate most important to continue, yellow was lower-ranked, and red should not be a current project. The tables below summarize the outcomes as they link with the three MRC goals, and commitments made.

Goal 1: Protect & Restore <u>Nearshore-Marine?</u> Ecosystems								
Project	Sub-Topic(s)	# Green Dots	# Yellow Dots	# Red Dots	Lead	2nd Lead	Helper	Comment
Olympia Oyster	Native spp. restoration	3	2	2	Lyn	Ed	-	
Oil Spill Preparedness	HAZWOPER; oiled wildlife response	5	0	3	Ed/ Arnold	Jeff	Mike	
Marine Debris Removal	Derelict gear; Coast cleanups	3	3	0	?	Arnold	Bob	The MRC stopped working on coastal cleanups in FY 2019-20
Nearshore Landowner Outreach	Shoreline armoring	2	7	0	?	Bob	-	Partner with NWSF
Policy Advocacy	-	2	1	6	Mike	-	-	
Member Interaction with Decision Makers	Develop relationships	3	3	0	?	-	-	Connected with Goal 3 activity: Advise BOCC (Lyn/Alan leads)

Cathy Lear took the following notes: Native species; oil spill prevention/response; reach out to landowners

Ann’s note: The purpose of the Red dots changed: I first announced they would mean STOP the activity, but after some members found that too hard I changed it to mean LOWEST PRIORITY (I didn’t recognize the critical distinction until later). This means that NO (0) dots is also ambiguous and could mean STOP or else it could mean MODERATE priority, depending on how Red dots were placed by members. Sorry about that!

Action – The 2019-20 workplan is on the November agenda. Deadline to NWSC January 10, 2020*

Action – establishing a process for adding new projects and phasing out old projects is on the November agenda

***Action – consider two questions: (1) are these the best activities to achieve our mission and align with NWSC goals, and (2) do we have capacity to keep all these activities on our workplan?**

Goal 2: Collect Environmental Data to Support Decision Making								
Project	Partners	# Green Dots	# Yellow Dots	# Red Dots	Lead	2 nd Lead	Helper	Comment
Pigeon Guillemot	Regional MRC, WDFW, UW, Audubon	2	2	3	Ed	Bob	-	Data – Whidbey MRC lead but the responsibility will be moved. SoundIQ
Forage Fish	WDFW	7	1	0	Tim	Ed	Bob	
Biotoxin Sampling	WDOH, CCEH	4	1	2	Bob	-	(Coleman)	One stn. Pillar Point; need state \$; worthwhile yes/no
Nearshore Landowner Outreach	Shoreline armoring	2	7	0	?	Bob	-	Partner with NWSF
Invasive Species (green crab – removal is restoration/ Goal 1)	Sea Grant, Makah Tribe, JSKT, USFWS	1	9	0	?	-	-	Intern project; depend on tribe/other agencies
Kelp Monitoring	DNR	4	2	0	Alan	Jeff	Bob	Data in SoundIQ
Innovative Data Collection Techniques	UW, Tom Mumford, County, City of PA	1	1	7	?	?	Mike?	HOBO (have two for temp); ROVs, drones, add pH (+ more), swimming beaches; ICLEI/GHG, NANOOS, other?
Nexus with GRPs	Ecology, DNR	2	0	0	Mike	-	-	

Cathy Lear took the following notes:

- Requires 5 years’ duration to be meaningful – MRC participates in/funds activities but does not necessarily lead a monitoring project.
- Innovation: MRCs are the places to try out experiments
- Kelp surveys – boat-based kelp surveys, expanded from merely location to temperature, pH, and plankton. Helping to answer the question: why should we care about kelp forests? – The current ties to economic base include forests’ role as nurseries for juvenile rockfish and salmon, and crab larvae. Kelp forests’ ability to buffer pH is also a valuable contribution to the system.
- ROVs will become increasingly important, especially to monitor substrate (net pen example)
- Monitoring data should connect to a larger effort (listed in table). Could also be useful for Nanoos (NOAA); Geographic Response Plans.

Action – The 2019-20 workplan is on the November agenda. Deadline to NWSC January 10, 2020*

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Goal 3: Educate & Engage County Citizens, a.k.a. Promote Environmental Stewardship							
Project	# Green Dots	# Yellow Dots	# Red Dots	Lead	2nd Lead	Helper	Comment
Advise BOCC (and cities, tribes, Port?)	7	0	0	Lyn/ Alan			Also see Goal 1; Interaction (two-way): invite to our meetings, use existing structure? Also – County staff, Planning Commission, etc.; Figure out decision path on issues before BOCC, track issues
Student Internships	4	0	0		Arnold		
Citizen Science Opportunities	5	0	0		Bob		
Citizen Engagement Opportunities	1	1	1			Bob	
Schools	1	2	1			Bob	Clallam Bay 5 th graders (only?)
Crabbers	0	6	3				
Public Forums	2	1	4			Ann	
Festivals (River, Crab, Irrigation, Celebration of Sci & Tech)	0	2	4	Lyn (River Fest.)			
West Elwha Beach Stewardship	1	3	1	Arnold			Sani-cans, Signs, Pet Waste
PR/Targeted Marketing of MRC	0	0	0		Ann		[Will hire helper in the spring]
Get New Help	0	0	0				

Cathy Lear took the following notes:

- Advising BOCC: MRC must insert itself into process; no defined pathway to provide feedback. One form could be a 2 page briefing paper. If advising, MRC must do its homework.
- Opportunities to approach commissioners independently
- Change in charter/liaison to County departments: BOCC once assigned Commissioners to liaise with specific County departments and committees. Since the change in the County charter (elect Commissioners by District rather than countywide), this is not the case. Hence, BOCC may be less tuned in to issues at a finer scale.
- MRC could request to interact on specific topics (ie, Jefferson dinners)

Action – The 2019-20 educational outreach plan is on the November agenda. Deadline to NWSC January 15, 2020

*Action – consider two questions: (1) are these the best activities to achieve our mission and align with NWSC goals, and (2) do we have capacity to keep all these activities on our workplan?

Theme 1. Clarify Workplan/Direction/Goals, continued

The members brainstormed high-priority topics for projects that align with our vision and mission – and then used 3 blue dots to rank the topics; results as follows:

Topic	# Dots
Climate	9
Toxics in Marine incl. Plastics	6
Fossil Fuel Transport	5
Shoreline Development	5
Net pens	3
Harbor Cleanup	2
Orca recovery	1
Invasive Species	1
Forest Harvest	1
Marine Birds	0
Salmon restoration	0
Rayonier property	0
Total dots used	33

Theme 2. Clarify Outside Agency Involvement (Lyn)

[Handout: Key partnerships list]

The group brainstormed new or expanded partnerships and explored modes of interaction with the BOCC and other elected bodies.

New/expanded/existing Key Partnerships:

Surfriders	Peninsula College
School Districts	Tribes
OCA	Cities
High School Clubs – video, PAHS Leadership	Port
Oly. Penin. Audubon Society	Sea Grant
Island MRC	Wineries/Breweries/Cideries
Coastal MRC	Music groups
Jefferson MRC	Clallam League of Women Voters
Feiro	Dungeness River Audubon Center
CC Health Dept.	WSU
NOSC	UW
NOLT	Database folks
Clallam Cons. District	Scuba Clubs
Crabbers	Paddling Clubs
Anglers	Flyfishing Clubs

Cathy Lear took the following notes:

- How does MRC interact with local/tribal jurisdictions/BOCC?
- How to raise profile and increase interaction?
- Outreach is the MRC’s job – for example, at tribal, council meetings, Port Commissioner, and BOCC work sessions, if appropriate
- One-on-one visits with talking points
- Issue-specific feedback – don’t wait to be asked (an issue/topics list was written on the easel)
- How to approach a new issue
- How are others working with councils? With issues?
- NWSI Science Team may offer guidance

Two topics were added to the “Parking Lot” for Theme 2.

- Help Clallam County gov’t to make progress on climate planning and mitigation
- Process for dealing with new issues – one suggestion was to ask for advice at the NWSC symposium in January. The other was to ask the NWS science team for guidance.

Theme 3 – Part 1. Improve Participation and Get Help (Lyn)

The group brainstormed how and where to recruit volunteers and people to serve as alternates on the MRC (assuming members themselves are responsible to help recruit).

Sources of New Volunteers and/or Members:

OP Audubon Society	COASST
Feiro	Senior Centers
Dungeness River Audubon Center	Volunteer Website (Darcy/ Jefferson Co., WSU)
NOSC	News Ads
WSU	Website
Streamkeepers	Students (projects)
Recruitment Events (ours or others’) (Celebration of Science & Tech, music events, issue forums)	Adult Education Groups

Another suggestion was to change the venue for the monthly meetings to make it more attractive for the public to attend. (Look at Partnerships list for venue ideas)

Cathy Lear took the following notes:

- Important to bring more people to the table – alternates and project volunteers.
- Friend-raiser was successful. Can we do that regularly, with a theme each time?
- Science topics very popular and are well-attended.
- Partnerships can be sources – see handout and easel list
- For project volunteers, consider:
 - What can people do in one day?
- Who do we know who would be interested in participating?
- ***Members – recruit an alternate* - emphasized several times during workshop**

- Increase profile with social media, ads in newspaper (a la Jefferson MRC/Pt. Townsend Leader and ad at Rose Theater) (note: Discovery Bay Olympia oyster restoration has been a front-page story in the PT Leader, w/ big color photo of Neil with an Oly oyster) (example brought by Sissi)
- Recruiting and organizing volunteers takes time. How to manage:
 - Volunteer coordinator (Surfrider model)
 - Project leads recruit volunteers for their project

Action – establishing a process and timeline for finding alternates is on the November agenda.

At the end of this session, after potential sources of volunteers were identified, the members were asked to return to the easels listing current and potential new projects and write their names next to any project they were realistically able to commit to (1) lead, (2) co-lead/assist, or (3) help out/labor only – while avoiding over-committing. Results are indicated in the Project tables, above.

Theme 3 – Part 2. Identify New Leadership (Sissi)

[Handout: committee models diagram]

Sissi started the discussion by reviewing roles and responsibilities of the chair and co-chair found in our Bylaws, and indicated some alternatives for chair support – including rotating leadership, adding leadership positions, splitting up chair responsibilities, and letting an alternate chair the group.

Easel notes from the group discussion:

Main roles for the Chair are related to

- (1) Meetings – (1a) facilitation; (1b) setting agendas (with help from Helle and the Executive Committee consisting of the Chair, Vice Chair, Outgoing Chair, and NWSC Rep)
- (2) Spokesperson to the press

From the Bylaws the Chair also (3) appoints subcommittees and (4) interacts with outside entities.

The DRMT model was described, which includes a single chairperson/facilitator, rotating monthly vice-chair (with responsibility to facilitate in chair's absence), and a self-nominated/group-approved Executive Committee used for agenda-setting and decision-making, which meets every 1-3 months. The group discussed the benefits this affords, including sharing responsibilities and sharing the brainstorming required to plan meetings, etc.; volunteers were requested from the membership to sit on the Executive Committee, and resulted as follows.

Executive Committee

- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- NWSC Rep – Alan Clark
- Outgoing Chair – Jeff Ward
- MRC members – Ann Soule and Arnold Schouten

An official vote was taken to elect these new leaders:

- Chair – Bob Vreeland, with the request that other members take lead on press spokesperson

- Vice-Chair – Robert Knapp, with the caveat that he may need to recuse himself at times due to his employment with the Jamestown Tribe

The Executive Committee will need to decide if leadership responsibilities will be assigned or shared:

- Facilitate the Monthly Meetings (Bob Vreeland, and in his absence Robert Knapp)
- Finalize agendas for meetings (Helle Andersen, Project Coordinator, will provide the draft agendas. In the past the agendas have been finalized by email.)
- Press Spokesperson (Jeff agreed to help as needed)
- NWSC Representation (Alan Clark)
- Subcommittee Appointments
- Interaction with Outside Entities

Another task for the Executive Committee is to decide how often they should meet.

Cathy Lear took the following notes:

- Duties of the chair can expand/contract; only required duty is to run the monthly meeting
- Discussion of various models of structure – exec committee is important; it does not have to be its current set of member designations. It is important to identify the person who is the MRC’s ‘Face to the World’ i.e. comments in media, etc. It can be different for different circumstances (Jefferson Dinner example where Jeff was invited but delegated Ed as most appropriate to attend).
- During discussion, structure evolved to include a series of co-exec members. Bob Vreeland to serve as chair of meetings. Robert Knapp to serve as vice-chair. Arnold and Ann to co-serve on Exec. (Lyn also possibly willing?) Alan and Jeff to advise as needed.

Wrap Up (Ann)

With our reasons for being involved visible on the sheet labeled “Whereas...” an accompanying sheet labeled “Be it therefore resolved that:” was used to list accomplishments of the day:

- Robert² were elected as our 2019-20 leaders
- Projects were given priorities (and non-priorities for now)
- Leader names were listed on most projects
- Members recognized an urgency to find alternates
- The members clarified the group’s mission and goals
- The members have unfinished business

Action for November meeting: revisit the goals of the retreat to reflect whether we moved the needle closer to achieving them.



Appendix A

CMRC Vision is

a healthy ^{and} protected marine ecosystem for future generations.

CMRC Mission is

to develop projects that achieve:

> GOAL 1 ~ Protect & restore nearshore ecosystems

> GOAL 2 ~ Use science to support decision making

> GOAL 3 ~ Promote environmental stewardship

NEXT

Nov. meeting - CLIMATE; ALTERNATES;

Annual conference

* Find ALTERNATES * .?@MRC conf.

New projects? - How + when

→ PROJECTS ←

GOAL 1:

PROTECT & RESTORE NEARSHORE ECOSYSTEMS

2 each
Green
Yellow
Red

 Olympia Oysters (Native spp. restoration)

 Oil Spill Preparedness - HAZWOPER
- Oiled Wildlife (Response)

 Marine Debris Removal - Derelict gear
- Coast Cleanups

 Nearshore landowner outreach to shoreline armoring

 Policy Advocacy

 Member interaction w/ decision makers (develop relationships)

No more

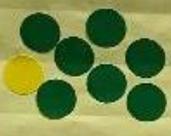
2 cod
Green
Yellow
Red

GOAL 2: Collect Env. data to support decision making
aka "Use Science" to ... " " " "



Pigeon Guillemot Surveys

Regional MRC, WDFW, UW, Audubon Sound IQ
Whidbey MRC lead (moving) Prob. Waters



Forage Fish Monitoring

WDFW



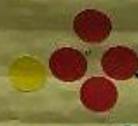
Biotoxin Sampling in Western Strait

WA DOH Need state \$! Worthwhile yes/no 1 site claims



Invasive spp. monitoring/ingmt. (Green crabs)

(Sea Grant) dependent on tribes so far other agencies removal Interns



Innovative data collection techniques



Kelp monitoring

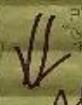
DNR, Sound IQ

data for outreach

Drones
Sampling methods
HOBOS

consider ROVs

Collect WQ data (GW)



Also nexus w/

GRPs - Ecy
DNR

City of Pt County Skimming boat
County? (ICLEI) data
Gilly tracking
NANISOS

2 each
 Green - GO
 Yellow - SLOW
 Red - STOP

GOAL 3: Educate + Engage Co. Citizens
 aka. "Promote environmental stewardship"

-  Advise BOCC / Also see Goal 1
 ~ Interaction (two-way) and city/tribe/port
 Invite to our meetings
 Use existing structure?
 Also - staff, Planning Commission
 - decision path
-  Student Internships
-  Citizen Science Opportunities
 Track issues
-  Citizen Engagement Opportunities
-  - Schools [Clallam Bay 5th graders]
-  Crabbers
-  Public Forums [various]
-  - Festivals [River Fest, Crab Fest,
 Celebration of Sci + Tech, Irrigation Fest.]
-  West Elwha Beach Sonicans / Signs
 (pet waste)
-  PR / ^{targeted} Marketing our group
- Get New Help

Issues / Topics

3 Blue



Climate



Shoreline
Development



FF transport



Invasive
Species

• Forest harvest

Rayonnier property



Toxics in
marine
incl. plants



• Harbor cleanup



• Net pens



• Orca recovery

Marine birds

Salmon restoration

PARTNERSHIPS

- Surfriders
- School Districts
- Empire OCA
- High School Clubs - Video class
 - ↳ PAHS Leadership
- ✓ O.P. Audubon Society
- Island MRC
- Coastal MRC
- Jeffco MRC
- ✓ Feiro
- Penin. College
- Tribes
- Cities
- Port
- Sea Grant
- Wineries/Breweries/Distilleries
- Music groups
- Clallam League of Women/Vol
- ✓ Dung River Audubon Center
- CC Health Dept
- ✓ NOSC
- NOLT
- Clallam Cons. District
- ✓ WSU
- UW
- Database folks

SOURCES OF NEW VOLUNTEERS ^{4/0} Mem

(Us)

- Streamkeepers
- Recruitment Events
 - Celebration of Science
 - Music event
- Issue Forums

Venues
for meetings

- Adult Education groups
- COASST
- Senior Centers
- Volunteer website (Darc
Jeff
WSU)
- News ads
- Website
- Students (projects)

-
- Scuba clubs
 - Paddling clubs
 - Flyfishing " / Angling ^{ers}
 - Crabbers

PARKING LOT

- * Help Clallam County gov't to make progress on climate planning + mitigation
- * Keep timeline in mind - next 20 years Legacy issues + new
- * Assist in creating MPAs
- * "Results" column for our goals
- * Do they align enough w/ NWSE goals?
- * Are they local enough?
- * Tree/forest harvest concerns
- * Process for dealing w/ new issues / ask for this @ Symposium
ask NWSE Secret team for guidance

* Publicity about MRC
- social media

Robert Knapp
Bob V.

Chair ~~job~~ Roles

Chain + Vice

Meetings — Facilitate
Agendas (Hille) + exec

Press Spokesperson

(?) Subcommittee appointments

Interaction w/ outside entities

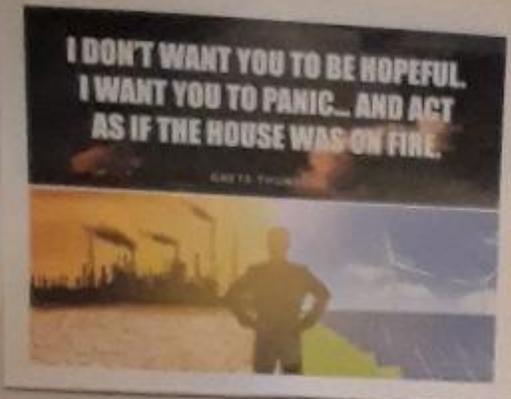
NWSC Rep

Arnold
Ann

Be it therefore resolved that:

- > Robert² as our 2019-20 leaders
- > Priorities on projects, & non-priorities for now
- > Leader / names on most
- > ~~Good~~ Recognized urgency to find a.l.s.
- > Clarified mission & goals
- > have unfinished business

Whereas.



Handwritten notes and lists on several sheets of paper at the bottom of the page, including a list of names and some illegible text.