CLALLAM MRC MEETING AGENDA

May 19th, 2025
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting

Zoom meeting link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83769639254?pwd=FmcMflhkxw6df902xa2tsxu6UAHGVB.1
Meeting ID: 837 6963 9254
Passcode: 12345
For more information about the MRC, please contact Cathy Lear at (360) 417-2361

Welcome by Chair LaTrisha Suggs / Call to Order / Roll Call

- Determination of quorum

Public Comment on agenda items, *limited to 3 minutes per participant at the discretion of the Chair*

Approval of Minutes – April

Election of Chair, Vice Chair, and NWSC Representative

- Nominations
  - Chairperson
  - Vice-Chairperson
  - NWSC Rep

Announcements

- Open MRC seats: member representing community At-Large, member & alternate for Makah Tribe (appointed directly by Tribe), alternates for District 1 and Development Community
  - Chris Rumple (Development Community) has stepped down as of 5/1/2025. He is interested in the MRC and wants to remain on the emailing list.
- Interview by Pepper Fisher with Pacific Radio, 5/6/25, regarding three Crabs Letter. LaTrisha and Ann participated.
- Senator Murray may participate with MRC projects with late May visit – Ediz Hook suggested
- Clallam County Environmental Health seeking shellfish sampling volunteers
- NWSC: meeting in Clallam County May 30th, likely at 10am
  - Location, time and agenda will be shared prior to the meeting
  - Project presentation, 20 minutes - Pinto abalone or Ediz Hook revegetation

Committee and Project Reports

- Education/Outreach opportunities: 2 future events
  - Forever Stream Fest (4th Annual; sponsored by PA Garden Club) - September 20th, 2025, 10am to 3pm at Pebble Beach Park, PA
  - Dungeness River Festival – September 26th, 2025
- Northwest Straits Commission update – Alan Clark
- Policy Subcommittee - Ann Soule, Alan Clark, Ed Bowlby

2025 Meetings

January 16 (Thu)	April 21	July 21	October 20
February 20 (Thu)	May 19	August 18	November 17
March 17	June 16	September 15	December 15

- Additional leads report if an update is needed

New or special business items

- Projects for the next biennium (10/2025 - 9/2027)
  - See attached draft proposals and budgets
  - Need to identify co-lead for Derelict Gear Removal and Ediz Hook Debris Removal
- Northwest Straits Foundation (Jason Morgan) seeking MRC letter of support for planned derelict gear removal in PA Harbor & Sequim Bay
- Staff transitions – thank you and enjoy your retirement, Cathy! Rebecca resuming as MRC Coordinator.

Discussion of next meeting date and agenda

- Next regular meeting Monday, June 16
  - Presentation from Amy Olsen, Seattle Aquarium Research Scientist, on WA sea otters and their recent return to Clallam Bay
- Call for new agenda items

Public Comment *Limited to 3 minutes per participant at the discretion of the Chair*

Good of the Order

Adjourn

Clallam County DCD is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
Join Zoom Meeting – NEW link as of April and onward
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83769639254?pwd=FmcMflhkxw6df902xa2tsxu6UAHGVB.1

Meeting ID: 837 6963 9254
Passcode: 12345

One tap mobile
+12532050468,,83769639254#,,,,*12345# US
+12532158782,,83769639254#,,,,*12345# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location
• +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

2025 Meetings

January 16 (Thu)	April 21	July 21	October 20
February 20 (Thu)	May 19	August 18	November 17
March 17	June 16	September 15	December 15

April 25, 2025 – Commission Meeting Highlights

Key highlights

- Alan Clark was elected Chair and Jamie Stephens was elected the vice-Chair of the NW Straits Commission. Many thanks to Tim Ellis, outgoing chair, for his service the last two years.
- Senator Murray and Representative Larsen have reintroduced the NW Straits Initiative reauthorization bill. Senator Cantwell and Representative Randall are cosponsors. To learn more see the press release.
- The May 30 NW Straits Commission meeting will be held at the Dungeness River Nature Center in Clallam County. Additional details and the agenda will be available the week of the meeting on our Events page. If you have questions contact, Caitlyn Blair (blair@nwstraits.org).
- The 2024 Impact Report is currently the second most visited page on the NW Straits Commission website! If you are interested in sharing the report or reading it yourself, click here or contact Jessica Owens (owens@nwstraits.org).
- Skagit MRC has released a Native Olympia Oyster Restoration StoryMap, available on their website!
- Snohomish MRC's 2024 Annual Report is available on their website!
- There will be two Kayak Kickoffs for 2025 MRC kelp monitoring volunteers, the first will be at Padilla Bay from 10:00 – 2:00 PM on May 2, and the second one will be at the WSU Jefferson County Extension Office in Port Hadlock from 1:00 – 4:00 PM on May 14. There will be multiple kayak safety trainings for MRC kelp monitoring volunteers at Bowman Bay, Fidalgo Island on May 31 and June 1, and at North Beach, Port Townsend on June 7 (two classes per day). Registration has closed for all events but if you have any questions or would like to attend the kickoff or safety training, please contact Jeff Whitty (whitty@nwstraits.org) asap.

YEAR ONE			Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	Task 6	Task 7	Task 8	Task 9	Task 10	
			Project Admin/ Mgt	Elwha River Stewardship	Pigeon Guillemot	Olympia Oyster Monitoring	Kelp Monitoring	Forage Fish Monitoring	Pinto Abalone Monitoring	Hazwoper	Education & Outreach	Derelict gear removal	
Salaries			85,000.00										
Benefits			25,500.00										
Indirect			27,327.50										
Contractual				1,980.00	800.00	1,500.00			30,000.00	6,000.00		18,000.00	
Supplies				140.00			1,000.00			500.00	1,000.00	500.00	
Travel			1,000.00				1,500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00	
Other†													
TOTAL			138,827.50	2,120.00	800.00	1,500.00	2,500.00	500.00	30,500.00	7,000.00	2,000.00	19,000.00	
											Year 1 total =	**$ 204,747.50**	
YEAR TWO			Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	Task 6	Task 7	Task 8	Task 9	Task 10	Task 11
			Project Admin/ Mgt	Elwha Stewardship	Pigeon Guillemot	Olympia Oyster Monitoring	Kelp Monitoring	Forage Fish Monitoring	Pinto Abalone Monitoring	Hazwoper	Education & Outreach	Derelict gear removal	Ediz Hook Debris Removal
Salaries			85,000.00										
Benefits			25,500.00										
Indirect			27,327.50										
Contractual				3,000.00	800.00	1,500.00			30,000.00	6,000.00		7,000.00	9,000.00
Supplies				140.00			1,000.00			500.00	1,000.00	500.00	1,500.00
Travel			1,000.00				1,500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00	500.00
Other†													
TOTAL			138,827.50	3,140.00	800.00	1,500.00	2,500.00	500.00	30,500.00	7,000.00	2,000.00	8,000.00	11,000.00
												Year 2 total =	**$ 205,767.50**

SEANWS-2025 – MRC Project Information Form

1. **Project Title: Crab Pot Removal**

2. **Project lead:** co-lead: Ioana Bociu

3. **Project description:**

Locate and remove derelict gear around Port Angeles City Pier and other PA crabbing locations.

Train Port Angeles MRC and local community on impacts of derelict gear and effective derelict crab pot removal techniques.

Vision/Goals:

Ultimately we would love to see this project sunset because no more derelict gear remains to be removed! However, we are not yet at that point.

Through a community event that highlights the efforts to locate and retrieve derelict gear, we will talk about the effects of derelict gear on our local resources and show what is required to locate and retrieve the gear.

4. **Roles of Participants and Partners**:

MRC members, MRC staff - coordinate with partners and contractors

Northwest Straits Foundation – provide expertise to identify locations of derelict gear

Consultants – provide equipment to retrieve identified derelict gear

5. **Activities and Timeline:**

Investigate permitting needs;

Determine Pot Locations;

Remove Crab Pots;

Design and host community event to highlight impacts of derelict gear; show what is involved in locating and retrieving gear;

Report & Continuation Plan

6. **Outputs:**

Proofed means for low-cost crab pot removal;

Greater community awareness of derelict gear's impact on local resources;

7. **Outcomes:**

Reduced harm on environment by derelict crab pots; community members understand impacts of derelict gear, importance of retaining their gear, and importance of removing derelict gear.

8. **Deliverables:** Please list any deliverables that you anticipate and associated due dates.

#	Description	Proposed due date
	Year 1	
	Sidescan maps of crab pots at local areas	9-30-2026
	Map of where crab pots were removed (GPS locations)	12-31-2026
	Maps of crab pots not removed, entanglement hazard/ embedded, etc.	12-31-2026
	Project Report with Data, Results, and Future Recommendations	12-31-2026
	Year 2	
	Sidescan maps of crab pots at local areas	8-30-2027
	Map of where crab pots were removed (GPS locations)	9-30-2027
	Maps of embedded crab pots (not removed), entanglement hazard	9-30-2027
	Project Report with Data, Results, and Future Recommendations	9-30-2027

9. **Additional project information:**

Project type	Focused Questions	Response
9a. Education and Outreach	• Who is your target audience? • What are your key messages? • What do you want your target audience to do as a result of this project? • What tactics or tools will you use to reach your audience? • How will you know if your actions were successful?	Target audience: Community members Key message: importance of maintaining fishing gear; techniques used to identify and retrieve derelict gear Success: people know more about keeping their gear and what is required to retrieve it. We can do this with a simple questionnaire.

9b. Monitoring	• What protocols will be used? • Will the monitoring data affect a decision about marine resources? • Where will the monitoring data go? • Are the data contributing to a larger baseline data set? • If ongoing monitoring, what will you consider the end of your monitoring program?	
9c. Restoration	• Are any permits required for this project and if so, what is the status of the permits? • Who has ownership of the project site? • Has a cultural assessment of the site been completed (if applicable)? • Is there ongoing maintenance associated with the project? • How do you plan to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation actions?	

SEANWS-2025 – MRC Project Information Form

1. **Project Title: Education and Outreach**

2. **Project lead:** Nancy Stephanz

3. **Project description:**

The Clallam MRC engages in community outreach and education, promotes marine stewardship, and shares information about the MRC itself. The MRC will distribute educational materials, attend local events and festivals, train the community for oil spill response, and support projects conducted in the community by partners and others.

Vision/Goals:

Successful engagement of the public, students, and citizen scientists about issues including species restoration, climate change, toxins including marine debris, beach stewardship, fossil fuel transportation, effects of oils spills, and shoreline development within Clallam County and along the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

4. **Roles of Participants and Partners**:

MRC members engage with community members to highlight and educate on topics of interest, such as toxins, climate change, and shoreline development.

Partners are:

Dungeness Nature Center – host of Dungeness River Festival;

Port Angeles Garden Club – host of Streamfest;

Local businesses that distribute outreach cards.

Projects conducted by other entities:

- Shellfish biotoxin sampling at Pillar Point (Dept of Health)
- Mussel Biotoxin Project in Port Angeles Harbor (WDFW)
- Sound Toxins harmful algal bloom monitoring (WA Sea Grant, Feiro Marine Life Center)
- "Catch More Crab" derelict crab pot prevention campaign (Northwest Straits Foundation)
- European Green Crab surveys and trapping (WA Sea Grant)
- Surfrider – outreach and sani kan at Elwha Beach

5. **Activities and Timeline**

Participate in 2 local festivals annually

Explore the opportunities to offer presentations to area groups such as sailors at local yacht clubs; college students and community through Studium Generale; local programs such as the Tuesday lecture series through North Olympic Library System.

Create and distribute outreach cards

Host oil spill response training

6. **Outputs:**

Participants at two local festivals

Participants in oil spill response training

3 presentations given to local area groups

Outreach cards distributed

7. **Outcomes:**

Community members will have an increased understanding of local and regional marine issues and the role the MRC and Initiative partners play in protecting and restoring marine resources.

8. **Deliverables:** Please list any deliverables that you anticipate and associated due dates.

#	Description	Proposed due date
	Year 1	
	Document tabling at 2 local festivals	12-31-2026
	Document oil spill response training	12-31-2026
	Document creation and distribution of outreach cards	12-31-2026
	Year 2	
	Document tabling at 2 local festivals	12-31-2027
	Document oil spill response training	12-31-2027
	Document creation and distribution of outreach cards	12-31-2027

9. **Additional project information:**

Project type	Focused Questions	Response
9a. Education and Outreach	• Who is your target audience? • What are your key messages?	Community members Role of MRC and importance of marine environment

	• What do you want your target audience to do as a result of this project? • What tactics or tools will you use to reach your audience? • How will you know if your actions were successful?	Have a greater awareness of the MRC and of the marine and nearshore environments Various tools depending upon the circumstance (festivals, training, outreach cards) Number of visitors to festival booth, to training events, to web site via QR code
9b. Monitoring	• What protocols will be used? • Will the monitoring data affect a decision about marine resources? • Where will the monitoring data go? • Are the data contributing to a larger baseline data set? • If ongoing monitoring, what will you consider the end of your monitoring program?	
9c. Restoration	• Are any permits required for this project and if so, what is the status of the permits? • Who has ownership of the project site? • Has a cultural assessment of the site been completed (if applicable)? • Is there ongoing maintenance associated with the project? • How do you plan to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation actions?	

SEANWS-2025 – MRC Project Information Form

1. **Project Title: Forage Fish Monitoring**

2. **Project lead:** Chelsea Korbulic

3. **Project description**:

As part of the NWSC and WDFW's region-wide effort, trained MRC members and volunteers sample monthly for forage fish eggs across four locations: Ediz Hook, Cline Spit, and Elwha Beaches east and west. Forage fish data are both processed by and shared with WDFW as part of a regional long-term dataset.

4. **Vision/Goals:**

Provide a better understanding of the forage fish populations within the Salish Sea by performing citizen science monitoring and raising awareness about the ecological importance of forage fish.

5. **Roles of Participants and Partners**:

WDFW: provides training and some supplies; identifies forage fish eggs; hosts database

6. **Activities and Timeline:**

Perform monthly forage fish sampling following established WDFW protocol. Upload data to WDFW. Transport samples to WDFW laboratory in Port Townsend.

7. **Outputs:**

Samples from identified sampling sites

Outcomes:

Increased understanding of forage fish spawning locations

8. **Deliverables:**

#	Description	Proposed due date
	Year 1	
	Amended QAPP	10-31-2026
	Final report	12-31-2026
	Year 2	
	Amended QAPP	10-31-2027
	Final report	12-31-2027

9. **Additional project information:**

Project type	Focused Questions	Response
9a. Education and Outreach	• Who is your target audience? • What are your key messages? • What do you want your target audience to do as a result of this project? • What tactics or tools will you use to reach your audience? • How will you know if your actions were successful?	
9b. Monitoring	• What protocols will be used? • Will the monitoring data affect a decision about marine resources? • Where will the monitoring data go? • Are the data contributing to a larger baseline data set? • If ongoing monitoring, what will you consider the end of your monitoring program?	WDFW protocols will be used The data will help to identify locations of spawning forage fish The data is uploaded to WDFW site The end of the program will be considered in consultation with NWSC and WDFW
9c. Restoration	• Are any permits required for this project and if so, what is the status of the permits? • Who has ownership of the project site? • Has a cultural assessment of the site been completed (if applicable)? • Is there ongoing maintenance associated with the project? • How do you plan to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation actions?	

SEANWS-2025 – MRC Project Information Form

1. **Project Title: Kelp Monitoring**

2. **Project lead:** Alan Clark and Chelsea Korbulic

3. **Project description:**

MRC members and volunteers will continue to conduct kelp surveys at Freshwater Bay and Clallam Bay in August and September each year. The surveys will use the most recent NWSC kelp kayak survey protocol to track the size and extent of the kelp beds in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Survey results contribute to a georeferenced database of kelp distribution, bed sizes, and kelp speciation that can be incorporated into NWSC SoundIQ database and potentially the DNR database.

The project supports a larger Commission-sponsored kelp monitoring program that provides a better understanding of kelp distribution, bed sizes, and kelp speciation within the Salish Sea. The Clallam MRC will continue to monitor two kelp beds in Freshwater Bay and one kelp bed in Clallam Bay between July-September 2026 and 2027.

4. **Vision/Goals:**

This project documents the size, in acres, of two kelp beds at Freshwater Bay and one bed at Clallam Bay using a hand-held GPS device deployed from a kayak. Species composition, overall bed condition, and water depth and temperature measurements are documented at specific locations within each bed. This information is uploaded to a geographic information system operated by the Northwest Straits Commission that enable users to track trends over time.

Given the importance of kelp beds as nursery areas and habitat for a variety of ecologically, economically and culturally important fish and invertebrates such as forage fish, juvenile salmonids and shellfish species, these studies provide valuable information to state and federal resource agencies on kelp bed extent, condition, and persistence through time.

In addition, the Freshwater Bay nearshore areas in proximity to the Elwha River mouth are continuing to recover from historic disturbances related to hydroelectric dams, their removal in 2011-2014. Monitoring kelp in this dynamic region is important to understanding the long-term recovery of these ecosystems and can inform future restoration efforts locally and regionally.

5. **Roles of Participants and Partners**:

We work closely with Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), the Northwest Straits Commission (NWSC), the Northwest Straits Foundation (NWSF), and local citizen scientists, as needed.

6. **Activities and Timeline:**

Safety training

Surveys in Freshwater Bay and Clallam Bay

Complete monitoring worksheet

Submit completed worksheet at season's end

Upload and share data

Report to MRC and NWSC

7. **Outputs:**

Outputs will include GIS maps of kelp beds showing acreage, water depth and temperature date and specific locations, and photographs showing kelp bed characteristics. Observations on the condition of the canopy kelp (both Bull Kelp and Giant Kelp) and notes on other species seen will be noted on data sheets. In addition, area photographs showing kelp bed characteristics will be provided. These data will be electronically provided to the Northwest Straits Commission and SoundIQ.

8. **Outcomes:**

This project increases the knowledge of kelp status and trends along the Strait of Juan de Fuca and augment and complements the synoptic survey work conducted by WDNR.

9. **Deliverables:**

#	Description	Proposed due date
	Year 1	
	QAPP amendment (through NWSC)	April 30, 2026
	Training for volunteers – safety, survey protocol	June 30, 2026
	Data upload to NWSC and Sound IQ	September 30, 2026
	Final report	September 30, 2026
	Year 2	
	QAPP amendment (through NWSC)	April 30, 2027
	Training for volunteers – safety, survey protocol	June 30, 2027
	Data upload to NWSC and Sound IQ	October 30, 2027
	Final report	September 30,2027

10. **Additional project information:**

Project type	Focused Questions	Response
9a. Education and Outreach	• Who is your target audience? • What are your key messages? • What do you want your target audience to do as a result of this project? • What tactics or tools will you use to reach your audience? • How will you know if your actions were successful?	
9b. Monitoring	• What protocols will be used? • Will the monitoring data affect a decision about marine resources? • Where will the monitoring data go? • Are the data contributing to a larger baseline data set? • If ongoing monitoring, what will you consider the end of your monitoring program?	Protocols have been approved by NWSC. The data will be used to understand the well-being of kelp forests in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The data is uploaded to Sound IQ. Project's end will be determined in consultation with NWSC and other partners.
9c. Restoration	• Are any permits required for this project and if so, what is the status of the permits? • Who has ownership of the project site? • Has a cultural assessment of the site been completed (if applicable)? • Is there ongoing maintenance associated with the project? • How do you plan to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation actions?	

SEANWS-2025 – MRC Project Information Form

1. **Project Title: Olympia Oyster Monitoring**

2. **Project lead:** Lyn Muench, Chris Burns

3. **Project description:**

The Clallam MRC is part of a regional effort to restore the native Olympia oyster. One and a half (1.5) acres of tidelands has been established in Sequim Bay as a restoration site, where the MRC has been focusing its efforts since 2018. In partnership with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, the MRC conducted population surveys in 2024 that showed good recruitment and population growth versus prior years.

In March 2024, the MRC also spread 47 tons of clean Pacific oyster shell as substrate for Olympia oysters. The MRC will continue to focus going forward on monitoring this restored habitat through annual population surveys. Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe will work with the Clallam County Marine Resources Committee's Olympia Oyster Restoration Lead and Clallam MRC Coordinator to plan, coordinate and implement the Olympia Oyster Population Surveys.

4. **Vision/Goals:**

Contribute to the Puget Sound wide effort to restore sustainable Olympia oyster populations in Puget Sound. Continue to monitor restoration of Olympia oyster populations through planning, coordinating and implementing the Olympia Oyster Population Surveys.

5. **Roles of Participants and Partners**:

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe staff – provide technical input for surveys; write report

6. **Activities and Timeline:**

Monitor growth and survival of Olympia Oyster restoration efforts in Sequim Bay by performing population surveys.

7. **Outputs:**

Agreements with partners; Monitoring event; growth and survival on previously restored Olympia Oyster beds in Sequim Bay; report on growth and survival.

8. **Outcomes:**

Approximately 1.5 acres of Olympia oysters are monitored; native species populations restored.

9. **Deliverables:**

#	Description	Proposed due date
	Year 1	
	Agreement with Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	4/30/2026
	QAPP	4/30/2026
	Monitoring report	9/30/2026
	Year 2	
	Agreement with Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	4/30/2027
	QAPP	4/30/2027
	Monitoring report	9/30/2027

10. **Additional project information:**

Project type	Focused Questions	Response
9a. Education and Outreach	• Who is your target audience? • What are your key messages? • What do you want your target audience to do as a result of this project? • What tactics or tools will you use to reach your audience? • How will you know if your actions were successful?	
9b. Monitoring	• What protocols will be used? • Will the monitoring data affect a decision about marine resources? • Where will the monitoring data go? • Are the data contributing to a larger baseline data set? • If ongoing monitoring, what will you consider the end of your monitoring program?	Established monitoring protocols will be used.
9c. Restoration	• Are any permits required for this project and if so, what is the status of the permits? • Who has ownership of the project site? • Has a cultural assessment of the site been completed (if applicable)? • Is there ongoing maintenance associated with the project?	No permits required

	• How do you plan to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation actions?	

SEANWS-2025 – MRC Project Information Form

1. **Project Title: Pigeon Guillemot Monitoring**

2. **Project lead:** Ed Bowlby, Mary Sue Brancato

3. **Project description**:

The pigeon guillemot is considered an indicator species of nearshore health, since it feeds primarily on forage fish such as gunnels and sculpins, and other small marine creatures which it catches by diving beneath the surface. Clallam MRC initiated pigeon guillemot breeding surveys in the county in 2016, in collaboration with Island MRC and Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society.

Pigeon guillemots lay eggs in the early summer, and the burrows are monitored from June to approximately September as the adults forage for food and the chicks mature. Monitoring begins in June and continues at each site until nesting season concludes in in late August or September. All data are provided to the regional Salish Sea Guillemot Network/ WDFW Survey 123 data management system, and the project is a collaboration with the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society.

4. **Vision/Goals:** Document pigeon guillemot breeding colonies on Clallam County beaches using established protocols, involving citizen scientist volunteers to expand the monitoring area in the Salish Sea for this indicator species.

5. **Roles of Participants and Partners**:

Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society – partner – trains volunteers

Island County – partner – hosts intern who enters data into regional Salish Sea Guillemot Network/ WDFW Survey 123 data management system

Salish Sea Guillemot Network/ WDFW Survey 123 data management system – partner – hosts database

6. **Activities and Timeline:**

Train volunteers to monitor pigeon guillemot nesting activities
Monitor during nesting season
Upload data

7. **Outputs:**

Trained Volunteers

Monitoring schedule

Data

8. **Outcomes:** Pigeon guillemot nesting and feeding habits will be documented and the information entered into the regional database. As an indicator species of nearshore health, the monitoring results will help draw the picture of conditions in the nearshore.

9. **Deliverables:**

#	Description	Proposed due date
	Year 1	
	Amend existing QAPP	6-30-2026
	List of volunteers	9-30-2026
	Upload data	12-31-2026
	Final report	12-31-2026
	Year 2	
	Amend existing QAPP	6-30-2027
	List of volunteers	9-30-2027
	Upload data	12-31-2027
	Final report	12-31-2027

10. **Additional project information:**

Project type	Focused Questions	Response
9a. Education and Outreach	• Who is your target audience? • What are your key messages? • What do you want your target audience to do as a result of this project? • What tactics or tools will you use to reach your audience? • How will you know if your actions were successful?	
9b. Monitoring	• What protocols will be used? • Will the monitoring data affect a decision about marine resources? • Where will the monitoring data go? • Are the data contributing to a larger baseline data set? • If ongoing monitoring, what will you consider the end of your monitoring program?	Protocols established by Salish Sea Guillemot Network As an indicator of nearshore health, the data can be used to inform decisions regarding the nearshore. Monitoring data is entered into Salish Sea Guillemot Network/ WDFW Survey 123 data management system. Data are contributing to a larger baseline

		data set. End of the program will be determined in consultation with project partners.
9c. Restoration	• Are any permits required for this project and if so, what is the status of the permits? • Who has ownership of the project site? • Has a cultural assessment of the site been completed (if applicable)? • Is there ongoing maintenance associated with the project? • How do you plan to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation actions?	

SEANWS-2025 – MRC Project Information Form

1. **Project Title:** Pinto Abalone Restoration/Monitoring

2. **Project lead:** Jeff Ward, Alan Clark

3. **Project description:** The pinto abalone is the only abalone species found in Washington waters. This native species has cultural and ecological significance, grazing rock surfaces and maintaining the health of rocky reef habitat and kelp beds. Population declines have been precipitous; the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) documented a ~98% decline from 1992 to 2017, leading WDFW to formally list pinto abalone as a State endangered species in 2019 and publish the Pinto Abalone Recovery Plan (Sowul et al., 2022).

   Restoration efforts for pinto abalone in Washington State have been underway for several years in the San Juan Islands and adjacent waters. There, the highly collaborative team with representatives from non-profit organizations, government agencies, universities and tribes, led by Puget Sound Restoration Fund (PSRF) and WDFW, has used conservation aquaculture as the main strategy for rebuilding pinto abalone populations. Since 2009, nearly 50,000 juveniles produced primarily at the Kenneth K. Chew Center for Shellfish Research and Restoration – the conservation hatchery that PSRF operates at NOAA's Manchester Research Station - have been released to rocky reef habitat in the San Juan Islands and surroundings.

   These animals, representing well over 200 genetically distinct families, were deployed to better understand outplant methods and to rebuild populations at 29 different sites across a wide geographic range. The key, however, to restoring the species throughout its range in Washington waters is to fill a critical spatial knowledge gap; presently, there is a dearth of information regarding pinto abalone distribution and abundance in the Strait of Juan de Fuca (Strait). Further, efforts by WDFW and PSRF to locate these populations has been opportunistic, not deliberate, due to funding and capacity constraints.

   For this proposed project, the Clallam County Marine Resources Committee (CCMRC) will partner with PSRF to continue existing pinto abalone monitoring work in the Strait, by conducting presence/absence surveys, that will be foundational to custom-fitting a conservation, restoration, and research strategy for pinto abalone in the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

4. **Vision/Goals:**

The ultimate vision of the work is to rebuild iconic and important pinto abalone populations throughout their home range, thereby facilitating development of healthy kelp beds that support myriad uses and functions in the marine environment. By documenting and eventually enhancing pinto abalone populations along the Strait, the team aims to reverse

the devastation from decades of unsustainable harvest. Further, the project is a tangible way in which the CCMRC and PSRF can strengthen their connection and the broader communities they each represent; both groups are both deeply invested in marine conservation and restoration, and bring complementary skill sets to the partnership.

5. **Roles of Participants and Partners**:

In addition to PSRF, we will work closely with the Northwest Straits Commission (NWSC), WDFW, Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), and our three treaty tribe MRC members: Makah, Lower Elwha Klallam, and Jamestown S'Klallam. We will also share information and progress with the Abalone Restoration Partners group sponsored by WDFW, as we did in 2024. Further, we hope to eventually recruit local recreational and commercial divers and will also partner with local vessel operators to increase capacity for increased monitoring and restoration efforts as the project evolves in the future.

6. **Activities and Timeline:**

The team's primary activity will be to conduct dive surveys each year to identify existing populations and aggregations of pinto abalone in the Strait. It is expected that dive surveys in 2026-27 will focus primarily on the Port Angeles and Pillar Point subregions shown in Figure 1, with survey locations in each year informed by the previous year's efforts, including the pending work in the fall of 2025. Year 2 survey locations will be guided by the results of the 2025 survey. For each year of the grant, we will schedule eight surveys days.

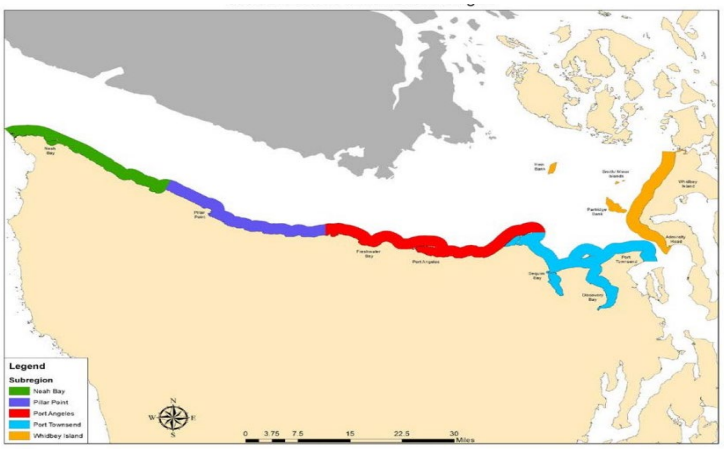

Figure 1 (from Sowul et al. 2022). Strait of Juan de Fuca Abalone Region. Five subregions within the Strait of Juan de Fuca Region. Subregion boundaries are based on the location of potential abalone habitat and information about past distribution of wild abalone. Subregions include large areas of unsuitable habitat (e.g., deep water, soft sediment) so as to be contiguous.

The dive surveys will follow methods already in use by WDFW and PSRF. The team will work with WDFW, using existing habitat maps and knowledge of suitable abalone habitat, to identify starting locations for surveys. As noted above, a total of eight survey days will occur in each year, with a team of two divers surveying at least two transects per day. Each 60-minute dive will consist of a timed swim with the divers swimming generally side by side along a transect and going off transect periodically to search for abalone in areas with good habitat.

When abalone are found, the divers will record depth, dive time, shell length of each animal. To document location, divers will signal to the survey boat by using a reel line to surface buoy, and then the boat team will travel to the buoy and mark the location with GPS.

Upon completion of the yearly surveys, the PSRF team will generate a report documenting the survey activities, presence/absence maps of abalone, and summaries of size and abundance data. The report will be reviewed by MRC leads prior to delivery to NWSC. As pinto abalone are a protected species, these data will be shared with NWSC, WDFW, PSRF, and the CCMRC, but not with the public.

The existing Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) will be updated, as needed, during the two year grant.

7. **Outputs:**

The outputs will include potential improvements to the PSRF abalone survey protocols based on its use in the Strait, creation of a report detailing the survey activities and maps showing the locations of remnant abalone populations (with limited distribution disclaimer), and development of public outreach materials and presentations describing the project, as described below.

8. **Outcomes:**

Successful completion of this project may result in significant restoration of pinto abalone to areas along the Strait where they were extirpated by recreational harvesters. At a minimum, results from these surveys will provide valuable population data on this state-listed endangered species along the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and the location of promising areas for juvenile out-planting that may occur in the future if additional funding is available.

9. **Deliverables:**

#	Description	Proposed due date
1	Updated QAPP	Two month prior to field opearations

2	Final Yearly Report	One month prior to end of yearly funding period

Commented [JW1]: Cathy and Rebecca- please change this if necessary

10. **Additional project information:** Please provide additional information based on the type of project proposed. If the project contains more than one type (for example, monitoring and outreach), please answer all relevant focused questions based on each project type.

Project type	Focused Questions	Response
9a. Education and Outreach	• Who is your target audience? • What are your key messages? • What do you want your target audience to do as a result of this project? • What tactics or tools will you use to reach your audience? • How will you know if your actions were successful?	Outreach to the citizens of Clallam County and Clallam County Board of Commissioners (BOCC) will occur periodically during the project to highlight the environmental and cultural importance of Pinto Abalone and describe the work of the MRC and its partners to restore viable abalone populations to the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Our outreach activities will include progress reports to the BOCC, public presentations, and the development of posters and handouts that can be used at local events where the MRC is present. Outreach success will be gauged by attendance at public presentations, the number of handouts provided at public events, and the number of news articles developed by local media outlets.

9b. Monitoring	• What protocols will be used? • Will the monitoring data affect a decision about marine resources? • Where will the monitoring data go? • Are the data contributing to a larger baseline data set? • If ongoing monitoring, what will you consider the end of your monitoring program?	• Protocols that are currently used by PSRF and WDFW will be followed (see Section 6). • Monitoring data will be directly used to implement the Pinto Abalone Recovery Plan (Sowul et al. 2022) – identified aggregations will be included in assessments of population stability, and individuals considered for use as broodstock. Data will be housed with PSRF and WDFW as part of a pinto abalone database for all Washington waters (i.e., a a larger baseline dataset).
9c. Restoration	• Are any permits required for this project and if so, what is the status of the permits? • Who has ownership of the project site? • Has a cultural assessment of the site been completed (if applicable)? • Is there ongoing maintenance associated with the project? • How do you plan to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation actions?	• No permits required at this time • Subtidal areas along the Strait are under the jurisdiction of WDNR, WDFW, and treaty tribes. All are partners on this project. • No cultural issues are anticipated. • No ongoing maintenance required • Effectiveness of the conservation action will be determined by the geographican and temporal extent of monitoring and whether future outplanting of abalone is feasible in the Strait based on information

		developed during the project.

SEANWS-2025 – MRC Project Information Form

1. **Project Title: Elwha Beach Stewardship**

2. **Project lead: Helle Andersen, Dann May**

3. **Project description**

The West Elwha Beach Stewardship project started in 2016-18, where usage surveys conducted as an intern project observed excessive dog and human waste entering the nearshore at this popular local beach. This waste carries a risk for fecal coliform bacteria and nutrient overload – much more so than waste from wildlife, because of the supplemented diet of domestic dogs. Due to these water quality concerns, the Clallam MRC (CCMRC) now sponsors a sani kan, dog waste bag dispenser and dog waste trash container, along with documenting the usage of these facilities and the beach. A small sign on the sani kan notes that the sani kan is sponsored by the CMRC.

The goal of the effort is to protect and improve water quality, contribute to nearshore habitat and species protection, and encourage community stewardship. The CCMRC has conducted surveys on foot as well as implementing a QR code survey option this year. Going forward, we intend to continue to maintain the Sanikan on the dike, continue the QR code surveys, and maintain the pet waste station by refilling pet waste bags twice a month, and determine a streamlined method to estimate number of visitors.

Vision/Goals:

To protect and improve water quality, contribute to nearshore habitat and species protection, and encourage community stewardship.

4. **Roles of Participants and Partners:**

MRC members, MRC staff. 2-3 hours per month or 24-36 hours per year for project leads to maintain the dog waste station based on driving distance from Port Angeles. 20 hours to write the annual project report. Total 44-56 hours per year.

5. **Activities and Timeline:**

The activities occur year-round. The beach is used by visitors all year, with use peaking in the summer.

2-3 hours per month or 24-36 hours per year to maintain the dog waste station based on driving distance from Port Angeles. 20 hours to write the annual project report. Total 44-56 hours per year.

6. **Outputs:**

Contract with the sani kan company;
Purchase and distribute more than 5,200 dogi bags per year;
Weekly maintenance of a well-used Sanikan
Number of pet waste bags used

7. **Outcomes:**

An outcome would be to have a decrease in dog and human waste on the landscape, increase in QR surveys and to educate beach goers of the hazards of excrement in the nearshore.

Deliverables: Please list any deliverables that you anticipate and associated due dates.

#	Description	Proposed due date
	Year 1	
	Contract with Bill's Plumbing	12-31-2026
	Survey results	12-31-2026
	Year 2	
	Contract with Bill's Plumbing	12-31-2027
	Survey results	12-31-2027

8. **Additional project information:**

Project type	Focused Questions	Response
9a. Education and Outreach	• Who is your target audience? • What are your key messages? • What do you want your target audience to do as a result of this project? • What tactics or tools will you use to reach your audience? • How will you know if your actions were successful?	
9b. Monitoring	• What protocols will be used? • Will the monitoring data affect a decision about marine resources? • Where will the monitoring data go? • Are the data contributing to a larger baseline data set? • If ongoing monitoring, what will you consider the end of your monitoring program?	

9c. Restoration	• Are any permits required for this project and if so, what is the status of the permits? • Who has ownership of the project site? • Has a cultural assessment of the site been completed (if applicable)? • Is there ongoing maintenance associated with the project? • How do you plan to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation actions?	

SEANWS-2025 – MRC Project Information Form

Copy the Project Information Form and complete one for each project the MRC plans to do. Several projects may be merged in the grant agreement, but in the Project Information Form please separate each project (e.g. all monitoring tasks cannot be bundled under one application).

Look through the Additional Resources section at the end of this packet for Communications Project Guidance, RFP definitions, the Project Wheel, and an optional Logic Model table to help work through goals, activities, outputs, and outcomes.

1. **Project Title: Ediz Hook Debris Removal**

2. **Project lead:** Allyce Miller

3. **Project description** (short project summary including the identified need that prompted the project)
   Clallam MRC has partnered with Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe to plant native vegetation on Ediz Hook following restoration projects that removes infrastructure inhibiting nearshore processes and replenishes the sand and substrate and natural erosion control that comprises Ediz Hook. The nearshore in other locations along Ediz Hook would benefit from removal of concrete, asphalt, metal, and trash pieces that are littering the shoreline (please see attached picture). These pieces are falling out of the shoreline as it erodes, and many pieces are already exposed. Clallam MRC will partner with the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe and City of Port Angeles to remove and dispose of the debris. The City will supply heavy equipment and operators to remove the big pieces. CMRC will pay for haul and disposal and for replanting the area.

4. **Vision/Goals:** What is the ***vision/ultimate goal*** of the work? What is your goal for this project period as a step towards that bigger goal? (How are you hoping the ecosystem and/or the community will change because of this project and other efforts? 1,500 characters)

   A healthy Ediz Hook nearshore/backshore that supports the marine and bird life that depend on the habitat of the spit is the vision/goal that this debris removal project will support. This project removes derelict debris that affects healthy nearshore/backshore processes. There are foreign materials littering the Ediz Hook shoreline and tidelands such as derelict concrete, rock, metal, and rubble. These foreign materials that litter the tidelands and shoreline negatively interact with naturally occurring nearshore/backshore ecosystem processes such as forage fish spawning. Some of the derelict debris contains hazardous chemicals like creosote and lead paint that harms fish and wildlife as well as impairs water quality. Once these harmful foreign objects are removed from the Ediz Hook shoreline, there will be native coastal vegetation planted in the heavy equipment access scars that will

improve the habitat and backshore ecosystem processes that support fish and wildlife.

5. **Roles of Participants and Partners**: Please list participants and partners directly involved with the work. Describe expected roles and responsibilities of each partner and MRC (1,500 characters):

   This project will entail support from Clallam County Marine Resources Committee, The City of Port Angeles, and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe.

   -The City of Port Angeles will provide: the heavy equipment to remove the derelict litter, the operating staff for the heavy equipment, the dump truck to haul off the debris, and secure the necessary permits needed to perform this removal effort. The permits needed for this project are a Hydraulic Project Approval from WDFW (LEKT already has one for the same scope of this project, but it will be extended and the City of Port Angeles will be added as a co-permittee), and possibly a DNR tidelands Right of Entry, an Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit, and a City Critical Areas Permit.

   -The Clallam Marine Resources Committee will provide: volunteers to help remove small debris, funding for debris removal cost, and funding for revegetating the backshore coastal vegetation community that is disturbed by the heavy equipment access.

   -The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe (LEKT) will provide: a staff member, Allyce Miller (who is on the Marine Resources Committee) as the project lead and logistics coordinator. LEKT will also provide guidance and assistance to The City of Port Angeles on permit acquisition as necessary.

6. **Activities and Timeline:** Briefly describe the ***main activities*** of your project along with an anticipated timeline of the activities. (The tasks and actions - science, monitoring, training, presentations, etc. accomplished by the project participants; 1,500 characters).
   - October 2025-September 2026: The City of Port Angeles and Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe work to secure all necessary permits for debris removal project.
   - September 2026: The City of Port Angeles deploys its heavy equipment, machine operator, and dump truck to Ediz Hook for 1-2 days of debris removal.
   - March 2027: Lower Elwha Klallam tribe's staff Allyce Miller and volunteers plant and seed heavy equipment access scars with native coastal vegetation. It is estimated that 1 pound of seed and ~700 plants will be needed for this revegetation effort.

- March-April 2027: Volunteers spend 1-2 days removing small debris (mainly small asphalt chunks) by hand on a low tide. One day will likely suffice, but two days may be necessary, tbd.

7. **Outputs:** What are the ***expected outputs*** of this project? (Anything tangible you can count, including people/participants in events, reports, presentations, or other tangibles; 1,000 characters)

   It is preliminarily anticipated that there will be:

   - ~20 cubic yards of debris hauled and disposed
     ~700 native coastal plants and 1 pound of native coastal seed planted
   - ~10-30 volunteers participating in planting and small debris removal effort

8. **Outcomes:** What are the ***expected outcomes*** of this project? How will the activities and outputs measurably further the goal(s) of the project. (Short-term changes you envision happening as a consequence of this work or things you might start to see within the timeline of the project. 1,500 characters)

We expect to see the area free of debris and replanted with native vegetation.

9. **Deliverables:** Please list any deliverables that you anticipate and associated due dates.

#	Description	Proposed due date
1	Debris removal along Ediz Hook's shoreline/tidelands	May 2027
2	Revegetation of native coastal plants along Ediz Hook backshore disturbed areas	May 2027
3	Educational outreach to community about coastal shoreline health and ecosystem wellness through volunteer events and Marine Resources Committee reporting	May 2027

Deliverable Examples:

Education/outreach/engagement: Outreach/education plan; social marketing strategy; evaluation plan; copy of materials; annual summary report (using Commission-provided template*)

Monitoring/research: Quality Assurance Project Plan (due before monitoring begins); annual project report (using Commission-provided template*); copy of data collected

Restoration/protection: Feasibility report; Cultural Resources Review; stewardship and evaluation plan; copies of any relevant permits; annual project report (using Commission-provided template*)

*If any project components will be completed by a consultant or contractor, please be sure they have a copy of the annual report template as well. Specific sections will need MRC perspective and contribution when working with contractors/consultations.

10. **Additional project information:** Please provide additional information based on the type of project proposed. If the project contains more than one type (for example, monitoring and outreach), please answer all relevant focused questions based on each project type.

Project type	Focused Questions	Response
9a. Education and Outreach	· Who is your target audience? · What are your key messages? · What do you want your target audience to do as a result of this project? · What tactics or tools will you use to reach your audience? · How will you know if your actions were successful?	Our target audience will be the ecosystem of Ediz Hook. We will also engage the local Port Angeles community in replanting and small debris removal efforts which will give educational outreach about marine ecosystem wellness and about what Clallam Marine Resources Committee does. We will recruit for volunteers through the Clallam Conservation District. We will know we are successful is debris is minimized and native backshore plant communities rebound.
9b. Monitoring	· What protocols will be used? · Will the monitoring data affect a decision about marine resources? · Where will the monitoring data go?	The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe will monitor the effectiveness of the debris removal as well as the replanting effort. The tribe will

	· Are the data contributing to a larger baseline data set? · If ongoing monitoring, what will you consider the end of your monitoring program?	make sure that at least 70% of the plants survive and that debris on the shoreline is reduced by 70%.
9c. Restoration	· Are any permits required for this project and if so, what is the status of the permits? · Who has ownership of the project site? · Has a cultural assessment of the site been completed (if applicable)? · Is there ongoing maintenance associated with the project? · How do you plan to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation actions?	Yes, there are several permits that will likely be needed. The one known necessary permit is a Hydraulic Project Approval from WDFW (already obtained but needs to be extended/modified). There will possibly b a DNR tidelands Right of Entry, an Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit, and a City Critical Areas Permit needed additionally depending on what level of disturbance will be deemed necessary. We will have one year to secure all permits. There has already been a Cultural Assessment done of the site. The City of Port Angeles as well as the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe are the property owners. After this project is completed, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe will monitor to make sure vegetation replanted is surviving and that most of the exposed debris has been removed. As time proceeds and more erosion occurs, there will possibly be more debris exposed and it will then be evaluated if further debris removal is necessary. That would be a separate project endeavor if more removal is needed.