

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

WWW.ISLANDCOUNTYMRC.ORG

Project Updates for October 1, 2019 Meeting

NWSC Grant Reports

Forage Fish Monitoring (Kukuk/Bennett): Update at meeting.

Outreach:

Sea level rise workshops (Bennett): Our sea level workshops planned from September 28th are full both on Camano and Whidbey! We are gathering contact information for individuals who can't attend this time but are interested in attending a workshop in the future. We will be able to give a fuller update at the meeting after the workshops.

Creosote identification workshops (Zupich): Notification about the creosote identification workshops has been sent to the MRC email list and through partner organizations. Anna also has printed flyers available. The workshops are scheduled for:

- Saturday, October 12, 9-11am at Utsalady Ladies Aid
- Saturday, October 12, 2-4pm at Pacific Rim Institute

"Discover Our Island Shores" film screenings (Toledo): The first film screening at the Coupeville Library drew 45 viewers and received very positive feedback. Florian was able to provide a Q&A time after the film. The library is interested in hosting a screening next year as well. The second screening is planned for September 28th at the Oak Harbor Library. Kelly will introduce the film and can provide an update at the meeting.

Rain garden signage (Toledo/Sub-committee): The sub-committee visited the rain garden at Crescent Harbor Elementary School and met with key school staff. The school is enthusiastic about partnering on this opportunity. The sub-committee is working with signage artist Larry Eifert and are in the process of developing wording for the signs.

Orca Recovery Day (Toledo): Three events are planned for Orca Recovery Day in partnership with the Whidbey Island Conservation District:

- 9am-12pm: Native Vegetation Planting at Sunlight Shores
- 9am-12pm: Native Vegetation Maintenance at Cornet Bay
- 1pm-3pm: Rain Garden Renovation at Greenbank Farm

Other Reports

NW Straits Commission/Foundation (Schwartz): The MRC Conference registration is open. If you have trouble registering, contact Nicole Jordan or Anna. The Whatcom MRC is looking for new members. Our MRC is encouraged to reach out to our networks in Whatcom to help get the word out and encourage interested candidates to apply.

Shoreline Restoration and Armor Removal (Toledo):

Oak Harbor Marina Restoration Feasibility: The County is in the process of establishing a contract with a consultant to conduct the feasibility study. A kick-off meeting is planned for October.

Hoypus Pt and Possession Pt Restoration Feasibility: The Northwest Straits Foundation has funds to conduct a high-level feasibility study, and the MRC has funding through our annual grant to bring one of the sites to preliminary design once the feasibility is complete. Anna and Lisa Kaufman will be meeting to get the process rolling for the feasibility study.

Shore Friendly: Island County is in the process of establishing a contract for the next round of Shore Friendly funding. These funds will allow the creation of a mini-grant program for shoreline homeowners to take actions to remove hard armor or prevent the installation of new hard armor.

Island Location Integrating Organization (Bennett): Update at meeting.