

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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Project Updates for February 4, 2020 Meeting

NWSC Grant Reports

Forage Fish Monitoring (Kukuk/Bennett): Monthly monitoring continues at Cornet Bay, Ala Spit, Hidden Beach, and Seahorse Siesta. The volunteer at Glendale is planning to start sampling this month. We would like to start sampling at Sunlight Shores, though we will need additional volunteers to help cover south Whidbey sites. Any interested volunteers can contact Anna. Big thanks to our dedicated volunteers who have been consistently braving the rain and cold and difficult winter tides to gather samples! Winter is typically the slow season for spawn activity, but it is still important to monitor because spawning can (and does) occur year round in our area.

Outreach (Bennett): Outreach has grown into a portfolio that includes outreach projects and support of the communication elements for other MRC projects. The MRC has secured a grant from the Northwest Straits Foundation through their Opportunity Fund to develop a communication plan. To date an inventory has been developed that includes missions and roles for communication, audience types, core themes and means of outreach. The MRC as a whole and the Outreach Committee have consulted on the nature of a communication plan with several public relations and communication professionals. Next steps will be to consider strategies to assure quality outreach to the unique communities of Whidbey and Camano e.g. consulting with PR professionals that serve these islands specifically, and strategies to leverage the time and skills of the new administrative assistant position in Island County Natural Resources.

Other Reports

NW Straits Commission/Foundation (Schwartz): The January NWSC meeting will be held at Coupeville Library on January 31st, 10:30am-3:00pm.

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

Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen Committee (Kukuk): Update at meeting.