

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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ISLAND COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES
COMMITTEE

Minutes

Prepared by Kelly Zupich

August 2, 2022

DECEPTION PASS STATE PARK – WEST BEACH SHELTER

PRESENT: Barbara Bennett, Chair, Jill Lipoti, Vice Chair, presiding, Scott Chase, Ken Collins, Elsa Schwartz, Kes Tautvydas, Kelly Zupich, MRC staff

ABSENT: Note if notified or un-notified - Hannah Liss, (un-notified), Gwendolyn Hannam, (notified), Alexandra Plumb, (notified), Ed Halloran, (un-notified) Andi Kopit, (notified),

VISITORS: Kristine Vannoy WSU Extension, Sage Ince, IC Water Quality, Carlie Miller, IC Water Quality, Leslie McGeorge, Public, Alena Baldwin-Brown, Public Leslie McGeorge, Alena Baldwin-Brown

CALL TO ORDER: Jill called the meeting to order at 3:00pm. **INTRODUCTIONS:** Introductions were made. **QUORUM:** A quorum was declared. **AGENDA:** Barb moved to approve the agenda. Kes seconded. The agenda was approved. **MINUTES:** Kes moved to approve the June 7, 2022 minutes, Scott seconded. The minutes were approved.

TRIBAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the lands we're on today are the ancestral and current homelands of Indigenous Nations who have stewarded them since time immemorial. We respect their sovereignty, support their Treaty rights, their right to self-determination, and we honor their sacred spiritual connection with the land and water. These Indigenous Nations include the Jamestown S'Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Lummi, Makah, Nooksack, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Samish, Stillaguamish, Swinomish, and Tulalip Tribes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Registration is still open for the Northwest Straits Commission's **Collaborative Conservation Workshop on September 16 from 11am to 4pm at Padilla Bay Reserve**. The program is being held in lieu of our annual conference and is designed to strengthen collaborative connections, share innovations and ideas across the Initiative, and reconnect in person. The entire event will be held outdoors. The NWSC would like each MRC to provide information about one project that your MRC is involved in. Kes, Barb and Jill offered to help Kelly fill out the paperwork and man the table at the event. The MRC decided to focus on the Cornet Bay site as our project to share about.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

Leadership Report – None

PASSPORT TO MARINE ADVENTURE

The NWS is working on adding sites to Island County and needs our help to provide photos, ideas for educational opportunities, etc. The site they are adding is Possession Point, Ebey's Landing, and Lowell Point. The MRC advocates for more sites to be added to Camano Island to be inclusive.

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ISLAND COUNTY WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

Sage Ince and Carlie Miller presented to the MRC about the Surface Water Quality Testing that is being conducted in Island County.

- They monitor surface water associated with various watersheds. Through partnering with the On-Site Septic team, Watershed Planning, and the community, sources of pollution are addressed (e.g., fixing failing septic systems, implementing farm plans). This work helps ensure that shellfish beds are safe for harvest, salmon have healthy habitat, and kids can wade in clean water.
- Surface Water Quality Monitoring Plan:
 - Priority Watersheds and Source Identification (SID) Sampling - Identified using the SWQMP prioritization process (Greatest # of fecal exceedances, presence of valuable resources)
 - Core and Rotational Site Sampling - Previous baseline sites were reviewed and categorized into two new site lists: Core and Rotational
 - Effectiveness Sampling - Show how a project affects water quality - Collect pre and post project data
 - Reconnaissance Sampling - Explore water quality outside of the regular core sites to identify watersheds with water quality impairments that may need further investigation - Based on presence of priority resources and estimation of current risk of pollution
- The main items they test for are, Temperature, Dissolved oxygen, pH, Turbidity, E. coli

Island County Surface Water Quality Website:

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/DNR/Surface-Water/Pages/Home.aspx>

Washington State Department of Ecology Water Quality Atlas:

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/waterqualityatlas/ityatlas/wqa/map>

COORDINATOR UPDATE

- Derelict Vessels are moving forward, and we are working on sending a list of priority vessels by Aug 25th for review.
- Kelly would like help ground-truthing the 33 vessels to be known to be abandoned in Island County. She has come up with a plan to recruit volunteers to go out and collect photos and data on each vessel. The MRC agreed this was a good plan. Ken moved to approve the new Derelict vessel project. Barb seconded. The Derelict vessel ground-truthing project was approved.
- Board Commitment Document. The MRC liked the document overall. A few edits were offered to clean it up. Scott moved to approve adding a signature line to the document to be signed annually by all members. Kes seconded. Adding a signature line was approved. Elsa moved to approve the new Board Commitment document with edits. Barb seconded. The Board Commitment Document was approved.

PROJECT/COMMITTEE UPDATES

- The Forage fish project may be adding a new site at the Beach Farm property owned by WCLT.
- ILIO – The LIO funding has been re-allocated for use to hire more support staff at the Puget Sound Partnership.

ADJOURNMENT:

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The meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.

DRAFT