

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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Minutes

Prepared by Kelly Zupich

August 1, 2023

HYBRID MEETING

PRESENT: Barbara Bennett, Chair, Jill Lipoti, Vice Chair, Scott Chase, Paul Ben McElwain, Greg Easton, Kirk Larsen, Patrick Havel, Kelly Webb, Elsa Schwartz, Ken Collins, Kelly Zupich, MRC staff,

ABSENT: Note if notified or un-notified - Kes Tautvydas, notified, Andi Kopit, notified, Melanie Bacon, Ex-officio, notified

VISITORS: John Lanier, Planning, Jennifer Schmitz, LIO, Lauren Burch, Public Works, Jessica Reed, IC DNR, James Watson, WICD, Dana Oster, NWSC, Clea Barenburg, Salmon Recovery

CALL TO ORDER: Barbara called the meeting to order at 3:00pm. **INTRODUCTIONS:** Introductions were made. **QUORUM:** A quorum was declared. **AGENDA:** The agenda was approved. **MINUTES:** The June 6th, 2023, 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.

SHORE FRIENDLY PROGRAM INTRODUCTION: Ann Prusha

- Provides free non-regulatory technical assistance: armor removal, soft shore, vegetation management, drainage management, structure relocation, sea level rise resiliency
- Design assistance and financial assistance is available
 - Mini grants between \$500-\$5,000 to implement the actions that we recommend
- Upcoming volunteer opportunities:
 - October 7th Workshop
 - New shoreline homeowners targeted outreach
- Shore Friendly is funded by RCO

CLIMATE CHANGE WHITE PAPER: Barbara Bennett

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- MRC volunteers and staff are working to draft a white paper featuring Climate change. The subcommittee is currently taking comments from volunteers and is working towards getting broader feedback from various IC departments, volunteers, and external experts.
- We discovered that there is limited local control when it comes to wells being drilled in Island County.

MARITIME HERITAGE AREA: Jill Lipoti

- We discussed our capacity and wanted to offer sharing their literature at our booths as a way to “pay” for our membership instead of volunteer time. Jill will reach out and see if they are interested in this offer.

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Meeting Adjourned 5:01pm