

**Jefferson County Marine Resources Committee  
Hudson Point Conference Room,  
Port Townsend, Washington  
May 6, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

Michael Adams, District 3, Chair  
 John Cambalik, *ex-officio*, PSP  
 Larry Crockett, *ex officio*, Port of Port Townsend  
 Shannon Davis, District 1  
 Judy D'Amore, Environment  
 Aleta Erickson, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
 Phil Johnson, *ex officio*, Jefferson County Commissioner  
 (arrived 6:09)  
 Pat Pearson, WSU Extension  
 Tony Petrillo, District 2, NWS Rep  
 Dave Robison, District 1  
 Judy Surber, City of Port Townsend (arrived 6:12 PM)

**Guests:**

Scott Brady, DNR District Manager, Orca Straits Aquatic Region  
 Jim Pickrell, Cape George resident, Observer

**Absent:**

Hyatt Barnes, Recreation  
 Joth Davis, Commercial Interest  
 Caroline Gibson, Marine Science Practitioner  
 Steve Lewis, Alternate – Recreation Pending  
 Anne Murphy, District 2  
 Andrew Palmer, Alternate – District 2  
 \_\_\_\_\_, *ex-officio*, U.S. Navy, Indian Island  
  
 Jadyne Reichner, Water/Beach Watchers

**Staff:**

Gail Bernhard, Meeting Recorder  
  
 Gabrielle La Roche, Marine Science Practitioner

Topic	Update or Issue	Decisions/Follow-Up	Responsibility
INTRODUCTIONS/ CALL TO ORDER (Michael Adams)	Chair Michael Adams called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.	There was a quorum.	M. Adams
OBSERVER COMMENTS	None		
AGENDA APPROVAL (Michael Adams)	The agenda was approved, as amended.		
APPROVAL of MINUTES	Minutes of April 1, 2008 were approved, as written.		
\$25,000 Supplemental Grant Amendment – Update (Gabrielle LaRoche)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grant amendment document was submitted to NWS.</li> <li>Draft agreement received from NWS and reviewed by Pat Pearson and Gabrielle LaRoche</li> </ul>	Agreement and funds should be finalized by July 1.	G. LaRoche P. Pearson
NORTHWEST STRAITS CHAIR AND LEAD STAFF MEETING REPORT (Pat Pearson and Gabrielle LaRoche)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced hours reporting</li> <li>NWS GIS web data</li> <li>Open Meetings requirements</li> </ul>		
NWS MEETING REPORT (Tony Petrillo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Padilla Bay – April 25</li> <li>Petrillo/LaRoche Project presentation</li> <li>New Chair Scott McCreary</li> </ul>	•	
PUGET SOUND PARTNERSHIP (John Cambalik)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strait Action Area working group plans</li> <li>Topic Forums review</li> <li>Actions and Priorities next steps</li> <li>New Education Manager</li> </ul>	•	J. D'Amore – verify that Anne Murphy can attend working group meeting for MRC.
MRC APPOINTMENTS UPDATE (Gabrielle LaRoche)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open position for District 3</li> </ul>		

Topic	Update or Issue	Decisions/Follow-Up	Responsibility
PROJECT COMMITTEE REPORTS ( All)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Olympia Oyster –sampling season is underway</li> <li>• Eel grass Protection – buoys are installed. Discussion about illegal mooring buoys. Planning for aerial eelgrass surveys.</li> <li>• Soft-shore Protection – discussion about Forts Flagler and Worden and Oak Bay under supplemental grant topic</li> </ul>	Terry Husseman grant application is due May 31.	LaRoche – submit application
JC MRC STRATEGIC PLAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRC members reviewed and amended the Action Plan A. 1 through B.6</li> </ul>		All – send additional comments to Gabrielle. LaRoche – update the draft with new input.
FUTURE AGENDA PLANNING ( ALL)	Next Regular Meeting – set for June 2 at Hudson Point Exec. Committee – Tuesday May 27 4:30 PM at Dream Café		All – send possible agenda items to GLR before Exec meeting.
ADJOURNMENT	The MRC meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.		

### **CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS (Michael Adams)**

Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM, and called for a round of introductions. A quorum of members was present. The new Form F: Record of Meeting Attendance was circulated for hours reporting.

### **OBSERVER COMMENTS -- NONE**

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Chair Adams suggested that the appointment of Interim Vice Chair be deferred until he had the opportunity to speak with the candidate. Pat Pearson requested time for a brief presentation before Observer Comments at the end of the meeting. John Cambalik requested 5 minutes additional time for the PSP Report. The revised agenda was approved, all in favor.

### **AMENDMENTS TO/APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

April 1, 2008 Minutes – Michael Adams moved and Larry Crockett seconded that the minutes be approved, as presented. The minutes of April 1, 2008 were approved, all in favor.

### **\$25,000 SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT AMENDMENT – UPDATE (Gabrielle LaRoche)**

Gabrielle LaRoche reported that the grant amendment had been submitted to Northwest Straits. This included requests for additional funding for: Water/Beach Watchers coordination (Crab Escape Cord; Creosote Log project follow up and Pet Waste Education/Prevention); Eel Grass project for map digitization; Design for the Oak Bay County Park; Feasibility Study for Fort Worden MSC Pier; Pre-removal Bathymetry or Beach Profile Study for Fort Flagler Pier. She said there is also some funding to work with Northwest Maritime Center on a schematic design for interpretive panels on the dock design, eel grass protection, etc. A draft grant agreement has been received back from NWS, reviewed by Pat Pearson and Gabrielle, and sent back. She said it seems quite possible all preliminaries will be completed and ready for project work by July 1.

## **NORTHWEST STRAITS CHAIR AND LEAD STAFF MEETING REPORT**

(Pat Pearson and Gabrielle LaRoche)

Enhanced hours reporting – Pat Pearson said that this is an annual meeting with opportunity for in depth status and fruitful discussion. The second day included a projects presentation by Gabrielle and LaRoche and Tony Petrillo. Pat said that the discussion on volunteer hours reporting was valuable. The individual MRCs discussed what had been attempted and what had succeeded. NWS staff is now under the same reporting scheme as those who are working under grants. It is now necessary to report hours spent on each project. Each MRC has committed to the new process. The new meeting attendance reporting sheet (Form F) is one of the new requirements. A database will be developed in conjunction with the new reporting process. Pat noted that the challenge is ensuring that all volunteer hours are reported and entered.

Gabrielle noted that hours worked on Earth Day – task 2, buoy installation- task 4, drift cell restoration task 5, etc should be listed on Form F, which was circulated again. Task designators are listed at the top of the sheet. Tony Petrillo suggested adding columns for each of the tasks for future reporting.

GIS – NWS is developing a web based representation of all GIS data collected by all MRCS, utilizing a Google Earth application allowing superimposition of the data. NWS staff person Simon Geerloff is working with a staff member of the Padilla Bay Research facility on this effort. Pat noted that NWS is taking a new approach by focusing more deeply on a few particular projects at a time and this seems to be working out well.

Pat distributed NWS clothing patches for those interested.

Open Meetings – This subject had also been discussed. Larry Crockett interjected that the Public Port Association had just sent out an alert bulletin regarding the fact the Washington State Attorney General had just issued an opinion stating that advisory groups are subject to the Open Meetings Act. The regulations pertaining to requests for information, documents, etc. and advance notice of meetings would apply, just as for the BOCC etc. Although more information will be forthcoming, Gabrielle noted that it is best to err on the side of assuming that rules apply to advisory bodies. The MRC bylaws are silent on this issue. Pat cited the recent case where a citizen requested and obtained all e-mails of the San Juan Islands MRC pertaining to their support of an aquatic reserve initiative. Commissioner Phil Johnson added that any sub-committee is also subject to these arrangements; for example, there must be public notice of meetings. The newspaper must be notified 24 hours in advance; however, actual publication before the meeting is not required. Further clarification is expected to evolve; meanwhile, members are cautioned about communications or meetings that may be construed as secret or not in compliance with the Open Meetings Act provisions. The Executive Committee meeting was briefly discussed since the meeting time shifts from month to month. It was agreed that notifying the newspaper satisfies the noticing requirement.

## **NORTHWEST STRAITS COMMISSION REPORT – Tony Petrillo**

Tony Petrillo reported on the meeting held April 25 at Padilla Bay. Each MRC presented one or two of their projects to the assembled group. Gabrielle LaRoche and Tony covered the Eel Grass and Drift Cell Restoration Projects. The new chair is Scott McCreary, Governor's appointee. Annually, the Chair position is rotated among the seven MRCs and the Governor's appointee.

## **PUGET SOUND PARTNERSHIP REPORT – John Cambalik**

Strait Action Area Working Group – John Cambalik referred to an earlier Action Agenda meeting that was held at the Jamestown Center. The topic was watershed integration but considerable time was spent on the Action Area issues. He said that, at that meeting, Steve Tharinger, the ECB representative for the Strait area, suggested forming a work group for the Strait Action Area. There has been one meeting and another is scheduled for May 14 from 9 AM to Noon at the Dungeness River Center. He said that he is looking for a Jefferson MRC representative to attend that meeting. Gabrielle said she would post something on the blog, since she will not be able to attend herself. Pat Pearson will also be out of the area. Commissioner Austin is Steve Tharinger's alternate on the ECB and he has indicated that he would like to see the MRC represented at these meetings. Topics will include: an update on the Action Agenda process and new timeline; recently published PSP documents; spreadsheet of inventory items of major projects submitted; results from the Status of Threats workshop; NOAA-led Risk Analysis; Topic Forum Discussion papers; Action Area profile information that John compiled for the Strait. **Ann Seiter (sp??)** is the contractor who is assisting the team with data compilation and data/report preparation. One of the next steps will be to begin discussions on additional actions needed for the Action Area as well as determining how that work group can help facilitate broader community involvement in developing a set of actions. This is not a decision-making body, but rather a coordinating body for the larger community. The Hood Canal Action Area is similarly served by the Hood Canal Coordinating Council. The North Central Action Area is forming the West Sound Watershed Council; he said they are further along, including formation of interlocal agreements. Those attending the next meeting include representatives for the City of Port Townsend, County staff, Port Townsend Marine Science Center, WSU, two business representatives. Judy D'Amore suggested that perhaps Anne Murphy could represent the MRC in addition to the Marine Science Center, and agreed to verify that with Anne. Larry Crockett said the Port is focusing its efforts on the Hood Canal Action Area.

Topic Forums – The last forum, on Water Quantity, was held in Edmonds on May 5. Pat Pearson said she had attended. She said that for the first time Storm Water was discussed from a Water Quantity perspective, rather than focusing on Water Quality. She mentioned the point made that the entire infrastructure has been geared to diverting water and dumping it into the Sound. There is now impetus for developing a new approach. Shannon Davis described her reactions to the Habitat and Land Use forum on April 28. She said the discussion paper was fairly well done and there were good comments. She said she was pleased to see the diversity of those attending. John Cambalik said the contractor is grouping the comments received by theme. Based on those comments, the leads for each session will be revising the discussion papers, which will become appendices to the Action Agenda. The final topic forum will be held on May 28. It will focus on meshing the earlier topics and cover the Quality of Life topic.

Actions and Priorities – This step will be done beginning in July at the next set of Action Area workshops. John said he is pleased to see the progress that has been made by the Jefferson MRC on the Strategic Plan. The amount of detail expected is still under discussion by PSP. He suggested that the MRC be ready to add more detail and that said would be made clearer by mid July.

New Education Manager – John said that **Ms. Kristen Coulee (sp?)** has been hired as Education Manager for Puget Sound Partnership.

Gabrielle added that the NWS had put considerable effort into reviewing the topic forum papers. She said they were concerned about the relatively low coverage of nearshore habitat, and had inserted additional material from the marine perspective. Shannon Davis commented that DFW had the same concern about terrestrial habitat.

## MRC APPOINTMENTS UPDATE – Gabrielle LaRoche

Gabrielle noted that there is still a vacancy for District 3. Advertising will continue until mid-May. One interested person has submitted an application. Suggestions or referrals are welcome. Forms are available from the Commissioners' office or from Gabrielle. In addition there is an open Alternate position (for Joth Davis). Brian Williamson may be interested; he is the Hatchery Specialist for Taylor Shellfish supporting the OlyOyster project.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**OLYOYSTER PROJECT** -- Michael Adams said he had received status from Anne Murphy earlier in the day. Sampling is underway; oysters are being transported to Joth Davis.

**EEL GRASS PROJECT** – The buoys are installed. One device is missing. There is speculation that it may have been inadvertently removed during the creosote piling removal process. An anchor is on order and that buoy will be installed when it arrives. Gabrielle said she has been waiting to talk with the County about how to coordinate outreach for Port Hadlock and Mystery Bay. However, it may be necessary to move ahead without them. An Eel Grass sub-committee workgroup will be convened to draft an approach that will then be reviewed by Community Development and the Health Department. Scott Brady, DNR, added that the shellfish area closure had the effect of bumping up the priority for his organization and meetings were being scheduled with County staff to work on plans for the area. He said that seventy mooring buoys had been counted in Mystery Bay last summer, only two of them legal from the State's perspective. It appears that some limits are needed for that area. [Note: some of Mr. Brady's comments were inaudible.]

Pat Pearson passed on a letter from the Health Department. The letter explains that based on their annual review, two of the areas are threatened with downgrade. Sampling reports for Mats Mats and Mystery Bay are attached.

Larry Crockett inquired about any planned eel grass surveys. Gabrielle explained that Jim Morris had done the survey last spring. Larry said he noticed a significant drop in eel grass in low tide exposed areas near the trestle compared to prior years. He said this could be due to an increase in sand from Chimacum Creek. Tony Petrillo suggested that the planned aerial survey to look at drift cells could possibly also cover eel grass observations. Gabrielle noted that the earlier survey was more focused on the seaward edges and did not necessarily identify patchiness or density. Tony Petrillo added that the survey did not encompass the area south of the trestle. Pat Pearson questioned whether the sand deposition had any relationship to the restoration of Chimacum Creek. Judy Surber referred to an earlier internal agreement that the MRC would adopt the practice that any new data would be delivered to the Shorelines Administrators for the City and County for incorporation into the GIS database(s). She recommended that Tony Petrillo bring this to the attention of Northwest Straits; i.e., when they are reviewing the grant applications they should ensure that the data is being shared with the local jurisdictions. Gabrielle pointed out that the extra (supplemental) funding is needed to cover the fees to pay the local GIS expert, Doug Noltemeier, who is a member of the County staff.

Gabrielle pointed out that that the Terry Husseman grant opportunity, maximum \$50,000, closes at the end of the month. She reviewed the potential plan for Fort Flagler, which would be for the MRC to do a baseline prior to piling removal by DNR, and a survey after that. She mentioned a rock pile that is impeding drift cell function. Tony Petrillo added that the situation is complicated by a remnant pipeline and a back beach on the uphill side. Also, the elevation of the beach is higher on the north side than on the south side. Gabrielle said the application is fairly simple, but that she would welcome input.

## STRATEGIC PLAN – Review Part IV/Action Plan

Copies of the most recent draft were distributed. Gabrielle recalled that the format of the plan had been considered at the last meeting, after reviewing the NWS draft plan. Originally, this MRC plan was based on the 2020 horizon per the PSP agenda and the NWS plan has a 5 year horizon. At the last meeting, this MRC decided to leave the vision at the 2020 horizon/timeframe but use a 5 year horizon for the action plan. The most recent version was worked out by Gabrielle and Judy Surber. She said they had considered a Gantt Chart format, as suggested at the previous meeting, but did not find that particularly useful.

John Cambalik suggested that it may be well to extract the higher priority items, not already funded, that would be candidates for legislative funding during the next session. Michael Adams noted that the State and local needs must be balanced and considered in light of plans/resources already committed. Gabrielle asked that responses be returned to her ASAP.

Michael Adams noted the utility of a Gantt format for project management and tracking, suggesting that each project teams may wish to develop such a tool.

Judy Surber pointed out that this specifically mentions that funding should be sought for these tasks in the next grant cycle.

Gabrielle led the group in a walk through of the tasks; the following suggested changes/comments were noted:

A. 1 – Cross reference to E.6., per Tony Petrillo. Michael Adams said he was personally interested in “clammer education” and would be happy to partner with MRC on placing signs around the County. Eelgrass surveys are covered in B.4. Tony Petrillo mentioned that the MRC should also investigate areas that DNR has not covered. There was a brief discussion about the various means of tracking eel grass presence over time. The fly over plans will include a list of target areas and take fuel costs into consideration when determining scope. Tony and Michael will schedule a flight during low tide after May 16.

Judy Surber suggested that notation be added to the Action Plan to designate items that are not currently funded. Gabrielle noted that the plans are written in such a way as to be expanded or contracted based on the amount of funding received.

Shannon Davis noted that adding new floats to older, poorly designed mooring buoys can minimize impact on eel grass. Such ideas should be promoted in outreach to landowners etc.

A. 2 – It was noted that all listed tasks are ongoing. Tony Petrillo asked if there was an appropriate handout available for landowners. Gabrielle mentioned development of a brochure incorporating the Ench artwork. Pat Pearson noted that the information should be included in the Shore Stewards booklets, as well. There was agreement that a series of bulleted steps would be appropriate, with references to the web site for additional information. Shorelines Administrators should have access to these materials. Judy Surber noted that Ecology publications have been very useful, but are now in limited supply due to DOE funding reductions; some are available online. Judy Surber suggested the possibility that NWS could assist in funding more copies. There was additional discussion about which booklets are available and one in development by King County on Alternatives to Shoreline Armoring. A bullet was added to A. 2. to cover production of a line card for landowners.

A. 3 – Gabrielle said that most of this work has been done by WSU and Water/Beach Watchers and is not really funded under the MRC. Pat Pearson said that she foresees meeting with two MRC committees

during the summer to work out education elements. Pat Pearson said funding for Water/Beach Watchers beyond the Fall of 2008 is still uncertain.

A. 4 – Gabrielle noted that this Objective is not really funded, but this MRC has been fortunate to have several member/ planners who are contributing significant time and expertise to make this happen. John Cambalik suggested that, in particular, it would be well for the MRC to help the County with the “Provide input on implementation success/failures” task, i.e. “No net loss” assessment. There was discussion about the breadth of scope and the need for defined indicators. John Cambalik said that \_\_\_\_ is working on that guidance. Dave Robison suggested the addition of “Seek funding and technical assistance to help County and City determine (inaudible)\_\_\_\_ No Net loss.” Michael Adams added that the MRC can provide local knowledge to supplement these types of efforts where the lead is taken by the County/City or other organizations.

A. 5 – There was discussion about the challenge of finding a successor organization to maintain/manage this project now that it is established, so that the MRC can move on to other projects.

There was a brief discussion about the plans for the blog site versus the website, and what types of access and controls are appropriate for posting to the blog. Currently, Gabrielle is under contract to provide some sort of MRC web presence. She said she had set up the blog as a test, with the intention of using the web site for more controlled, “official” documentation. For example, the minutes and meeting schedule/agendas are published on the web site. Possible review/approval processes were discussed. Judy Surber offered to verify any County web guidelines that may apply and forward them. It was agreed that those present are comfortable with the blog as it is currently being used as an information resource.

A. 6. – A typographical error under Outcomes was corrected: “and”, not “are”

B. 1 – Correct spelling of “assess” under Tasks. Judy D’Amore mentioned that a Seattle kayak group has contacted the Marine Science Center about publishing a brochure and suggested collaboration on that. Michael Adams suggested a possible partnership with Western Washington University on bird assessments. Gabrielle mentioned an existing Island County MRC pigeon guillemot project. Judy D’Amore mentioned interest by several researchers in establishing a project to collect bird sightings data from ferries. She said funding would be need for a staff person to coordinate. She suggested adding an associated education strand in connection with this objective. John Cambalik suggested adding coordination with the Clallam MRC and John Bowers (? sp) on the MESA data. He also suggested contacting Bob Boekelheide with the Dungeness Audubon Center. Gabrielle noted that none of the above is funded. Pat Pearson added that with these types of projects, there is the possibility of partnering with Water/Beach Watchers volunteers and applying some existing funding. Larry Crockett pointed out that shifts in migratory bird numbers must be interpreted as part of a much larger context; coordinated counts/studies over broad geographic areas are needed. Shannon Davis also mentioned the DFW marbled murrelet surveys.

B. 2 – This is all funded and ongoing.

B. 3 – This is not funded. Larry Crockett briefly discussed the occurrence of club tunicates locally. Judy D’Amore suggested addition of an additional bullet referring to *other invasive species*, generally. Michael Adams pointed out that any MRC role would be limited to education and support. Pat Pearson noted the extreme challenge of proper identification of invasive tunicate species, even by acknowledged experts. The State of Washington was added to the list of possible partners.

B. 4 – It was noted that this does not include identification at the species level. The suggestion was made to change “native sea grasses” to eelgrass in the objective. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that it is preferable to cover more area than attempt to refine the survey to the species level.

B. 5 – No changes.

B. 6 – No changes.

### **PRESENTATION OF NWSC CERTIFICATE TO LARRY CROCKETT**

On behalf of NWS, Pat Pearson presented a Certificate recognizing Larry Crockett for 5 years of service in the MRC. Mr. Crockett had not been present for the March meeting when recognition of several other members was made by Sasha Horst, NWSC.

### **OBSERVER COMMENTS**

Larry Crockett verified, for scheduling purposes, that the lowest upcoming tides included June 3, 4, and 6 during the late morning.

### **FUTURE AGENDA/EVENT PLANNING**

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 27 at 4:30 PM at the Dream City Café. Gabrielle said she would ensure that it was properly noticed.

She also called attention to the series of LID Workshops listed on the Agenda. One seat is funded by NWS for each of them and is currently reserved under Gabrielle's name. Anyone wishing to use a slot should contact her. Michael Adams is also registered for all but the Permeable Paving session. Pat Pearson commented that the Permeable Pavement session she attended was excellent, and includes technical level information useful to engineers and developers responsible for implementation. Handout materials are available for sharing. There was a brief discussion about rain water rights and regulations, and State plans for revisions.

The PSP Sound Synthesis Workshop is scheduled at the same time as the LID – Bio-retention Workshop.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Judy Surber moved to adjourn and Tony Petrillo seconded. Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 8:01 PM.