

**Jefferson County Marine Resources Committee  
Hybrid Meeting  
6-8PM on September 3, 2024 at  
WSU Classroom (97 Oak Bay Rd)  
Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

Neil Harrington, Tribal Rep  
Heidi Eisenhour, *ex officio*, BoCC  
Brad Bebout, District 1  
Timothy Behrenfeld, District 1 Alt  
Jeff Taylor, District 2, NWSC Rep  
Frank Handler, District 2 Alt  
Sarah Fiskens, District 3, NWSC Alt  
Tim Cross, District 3 Alt  
Emily Buckner, Marine Science  
Christopher Kelley, Marine Science Alt  
Gordon King, Commercial  
Troy McKelvey, Recreation  
Betsy Carlson, Envir/Conserv  
Joanie Hendricks, District 3  
Akeylah Behrenfeld, Local Youth Rep

**Absent:**

Carol Hasse, *ex officio*, Port of Port Townsend  
Brenda Johnson, District 2

**Via Zoom:**

Janette Mestre, District 1  
Bryan DeCaterina, Env/Conserv Alt  
Judy Surber, City of PT  
Roy Clark, Recreation Alt

**Guest:** No guest speaker this meeting

**Staff:**

Katie Kowal – Water Resources Program Coordinator  
Jeff Co MRC/WSU Extension

Topic	Update or Issue	Decisions/Follow-Up	Responsibility
CALL TO ORDER GUEST INTRODUCTIONS	Chair Gordon King called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Introductions were made.  Welcome to Akeyla Behrenfeld.	A quorum was present.	<b>All members – please send volunteer hours</b>
AMENDMENTS TO/APPROVAL OF AGENDA  APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Amendments to / Approval of Agenda Jeff Taylor wants to add a few minutes to Agenda – 5 min to Remote Imaging  Amendments to/Approval of August 2024 Minutes	Troy moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Sarah. Motion passed.  Neil moved to approve the August minutes. Seconded by Heidi. Motion passed.	
PUBLIC COMMENT	John Wagner, Resident, District 2 Thanked Katie for posting the minutes on the MRC website.		
GUEST SPEAKER	<b>No speaker this meeting.</b>		

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<p>Port of PT UPDATES Commissioner Carol Hasse</p>	<p>Carol was absent this meeting.</p>		
<p>BoCC UPDATES (Heidi)</p>	<p><b>BoCC Update</b> (Heidi)</p> <p>No updates on the application to Habitat Review Initiative leads for Puget Sound Partnership regarding the bathymetric lidar of the Strait to along its length from Admiralty Inlet to Cape Flattery. She will let MRC know once she has an update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It would be a good piece of data for MRC.</li> <li>• Cathy Lear is partnering with Jamestown Tribe on this.</li> </ul> <p>Shoreline Master Plan has been further delayed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She brought a letter from the Prosecuting Attorney’s office.</li> <li>• They lost lead person mid-way through the project.</li> <li>• New attorney needs to get up to speed and the PA has requested 2-3 months from Dept of Ecology.</li> <li>• A full briefing and a link to the letter on the Department of Community Development website.</li> </ul> <p>Gordon asked why last week’s meeting was cancelled. Heidi replied that two people were absent. No meeting with one person.</p> <p>There was a special meeting on Thursday.</p>		
<p>RECENT MEETING REPORTS AND ISSUE UPDATES</p>	<p><b>NWSC August Meeting</b> (Jeff)</p> <p>NWSC CONFERENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nov 15-16, Everett</li> <li>• Registration is up</li> <li>• Neil: Everyone should have rec’d a direct email only for MRC members, it is not to be forwarded.</li> </ul> <p>Science Advisory Committee is doing speed dating with scientists and will have a meeting on Understanding and Engaging Communities using Social Science.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4 – 5:30</li> <li>• <a href="https://waecy-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/85867524107?pwd=i1HqDEVxbZRAYh0aYHs8aISZ0snwIX.1">https://waecy-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/85867524107?pwd=i1HqDEVxbZRAYh0aYHs8aISZ0snwIX.1</a></li> </ul> <p>Approved \$1 million budget for fiscal year 2024, spread over 3 years</p> <p>SKAGIT VALLEY-DERELICT VESSEL RECYCLING TURN-IN EVENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50 boats offered for turn-in, 45 in LaConnor</li> </ul> <p>NWSC INSIDER ROUND-UP by Jessica Owens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is coming out this month.</li> <li>• Jeff isn’t sure how it’s different from newsletter, but you just may receive without signing up for it.</li> </ul> <p>Gordon asked who funds the derelict Vessel work. Jeff replied it’s a DNR program.</p> <p>Heidi said there was a vessel turn-in event in Port Townsend, last Fall (2023). She said it was one of the DNR programs (state funding), working with the Port of PT. In the past we’ve talked about it as a project for the MRC but haven’t done it.</p>		

<p>ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES (Katie)</p>	<p>14:37</p> <p><b>DRAFT SUMMARY REPORTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September 16<sup>th</sup> Draft Summary Reports Due</li> <li>Not due for every project</li> <li>Emails went out today, six of our projects</li> </ul> <p><b>2025 WORKPLAN</b> Subcommittee meetings TBD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thank you to Neil on the workplan notes from the past</li> <li>Katie will schedule meetings</li> <li>Workplans get voted on, budget drafted</li> <li>Goal is to get workplans done by the retreat</li> <li>Katie will think about the deadline to vote on workplans</li> <li>Email will be sent soon re: subcommittee meetings</li> </ul> <p><b>2024 NWSC CONFERENCE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Register by Oct 15<sup>th</sup></li> <li>Lodging and mileage expenses will be reimbursed by MRC</li> <li>Let Katie know if you are going to the conference.</li> <li>Neil is on the planning committee and the program is coming along.</li> <li>No further details yet, but things are developing and there is another meeting on 9/07.</li> <li>It should be a great conference</li> <li>Nov 15-16, 2024, Delta Hotel in Everett</li> </ul> <p><b>JEFF CO MRC FEATURE PROJECT AT NWSC CONFERENCE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Troy volunteered to work with Katie on this</li> <li>Katie will write up the project summary</li> <li>Troy suggested bringing pictures from the Padilla Bay project.</li> <li>Gordon suggested bringing a rope and an anchor and set them up there.</li> <li>Sarah said she could bring that.</li> </ul> <p><b>REVIEWING CONTACT INFO ON FILE WITH COUNTY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Katie asked everyone to check that correct email /phone is on contact sheet.</li> </ul> <p><b>JUDY S. HAD INPUT FOR THE NWSC CONFERENCE FEATURE PROJECT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over the years a main question has been about the cost of a continued Volunteer No-Anchor Zone.</li> <li>Other MRC's are excited about it but they want to understand the long-term cost of maintaining the program over time.</li> <li>She suggested being prepared to answer those types of questions. It would be helpful for the other MRCs.</li> <li>Troy said he would compile their regular and replacement costs and then ask about the cost to have two divers and a boat. He will put the estimates in a spreadsheet.</li> <li>Troy said it is about \$2000 every 5 years for the buoys and rope in the harbor.</li> <li>Judy said they changed the tackle a lot over the years, and learning from our experience on the tackle will be important to the others. Hopefully, it works in their environments as well.</li> <li>Gordon said they have had a solid team over the past few years.</li> <li>Gordon has brought the boat from Taylor which was a big expense that's been covered.</li> </ul>		
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<p>WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL PLANNING</p>	<p><b>Wooden Boat Festival Planning</b> (Betsy)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Festival is this weekend.</li> <li>• Microphone system from Marine Science Center</li> <li>• New sign was on display at meeting, it will be hanging in the tent.</li> <li>• New projector that is very bright, with a new screen.</li> <li>• This is the Marine Science and Stewardship Stage...AV equipment is the MRC's, not WBF</li> <li>• The WBF Banner says Marine Science and Stewardship Stage</li> <li>• Speakers are registered through the WBF portal, Festival website has schedule, speakers and their bios.</li> <li>• Betsy also sent links</li> </ul> <p><b>SPEAKERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neil, Heidi, Brenda and Betsy are introducing speakers.</li> <li>• Betsy wrote a blurb on ideas for things to include in the introductions.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Thank WBF for allowing this stage and the collaborative nature of it.</li> <li>○ Describe the MRC in a sentence or two to introduce us to audience</li> </ul> </li> <li>• WBF schedule shows each program, there are smiley faces for people who have pre-registered for the talks. So we have an idea of how many people will be at each talk.</li> <li>• 20 x 20' tent</li> <li>• Great speaker line-up:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chris Kelly</li> <li>○ Emily Buckner</li> <li>○ Lynn Brunell, added to the MRC stage by the WBF: an Emmy award- winning writer and used to write for <i>Bill Nye, The Science Guy</i>. She has written a children's book about what happens to whales after they die.</li> <li>○ Matt Klontz – Jetty Project</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>If we need to increase space, we can roll up sides of the tent.</p> <p><b>VOLUNTEERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All volunteers slots have been filled, except for Sunday, we need an extra person in the stage area and someone to help pack up.</li> <li>• Gordon offered to help pack up.</li> </ul> <p><b>CLOSING DOWN STAGE/PACK OUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last speaker ends on Sunday at 3:00pm</li> <li>• WBF doesn't want us to vacate until 4:00pm</li> <li>• Katie will coordinate where everything is going.</li> </ul> <p><b>OTHER DETAILS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Betsy will check in with AV people. There is a mic and a speaker available if needed.</li> <li>• PowerPoint presentations need to be up &amp; running</li> <li>• Try to get every speaker done by 45min after the hour.</li> <li>• There are no breaks in the middle of the day.</li> <li>• Joannie: How did you fit in extra speakers into the schedule?</li> <li>• Betsy: Barb at WBF did the calendar. They had one change, which created an open spot. So Betsy is doing a presentation on Citizen Science Apps</li> <li>• Hannah from DNR will be there at noon, WBF hasn't updated it on the website yet.</li> </ul> <p><b>BOOTH &amp; BOOTH SCHEDULE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master calendar link through the MRC folder.</li> <li>• Volunteers can see their time slot.</li> </ul>		
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	<p>Judy S.: What does a door floater do?  Katie:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If things get hectic, it's nice to have an extra person available. Someone is needed at the door to count the people coming in for grant reporting.</li> <li>• Answering questions, bathroom locations, etc... An extra person on hand for whatever comes up</li> <li>• WBF gives a clipboard with emergency notes on it. What to do in case of...</li> <li>• Someone lost, First aid tent, power outages, etc...</li> </ul> <p>TENT LOCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Between Fish &amp; Wildlife and Pygmy Kayaks</li> </ul> <p>CHECK IN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRC volunteers need go to festival headquarters</li> <li>• Go to vendor exhibitor side, not volunteer check-in.</li> <li>• Booth is in front of tent.</li> <li>• No parking available. There is a free shuttle bus from the Park &amp; Ride and Fort Worden.</li> </ul> <p>SET UP SCHEDULE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up tent on Thursday</li> <li>• 1:00-3:30pm</li> <li>• Vehicles have to be off-site by 4:00pm</li> </ul> <p>MISC NOTES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chris suggested considering how light comes in if you roll up the side of the tent. Sun can be a real problem with glare.</li> <li>• Passes: we have to let WBF know how we are using the 20 passes.</li> <li>• We have 26 pass slots that we need to fill.</li> <li>• They have different colors for different days.</li> <li>• WBF doesn't want everyone to rush out early on Sunday.</li> <li>• Info booth should be last thing to take down on Sunday. It's ok to take down stage.</li> <li>• Betsy: you can enter anytime on the day you are volunteering.</li> <li>• Microscopes will be on hand that will project images...plankton, etc.</li> <li>• Heidi mentioned the topic of women in Marine trades.</li> <li>• Gordon thanked Betsy and everyone applauded.</li> </ul>		
<p>CURRENT AND NEW PROJECT UPDATES</p>	<p><b>Shoreline Landowner Outreach</b> (Sarah)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beachwalk Lindsay Beach</li> <li>• West side of Dabob Bay, South of Broadspit, and Hatchery</li> <li>• A landowner was interested.</li> <li>• The Shore Friendly Program will do a rendering &amp; conceptual design at the Quilcene Marina. Hopefully by mid-February</li> <li>• It may persuade some of the landowners to change.</li> </ul> <p><b>Forage Fish Monitoring</b> (Dabob-Sarah)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They sampled last Thursday; Sarah broke the connection of hose. Her husband fixed it. They were able to get a half sample.</li> <li>• Akeylah came.</li> </ul> <p><b>Olympia Oysters</b> (Neil)</p> <p>Neil talked with Katie and she's been looking at the County bid process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He spoke with Jim Hayes Hood Canal Oyster Co. There is no problem with him dumping shell in the Fall.</li> <li>• Plan to put the job out for bid to a variety of Oyster growers, because it's over \$10,000.</li> <li>• This is at power lines site at Discovery Bay</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He checked in with WDFW and they can leave the bags out there for a while.</li> <li>• South of the original, and east of the one in 2023.</li> </ul> <p>Neil went out with Carrie Clendaniel from the Jefferson Land Trust.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There may be suitable tidelands that the Land Trust owns so we could extend the area. We're not permitted to do that right now.</li> </ul> <p>Evaluated the shell they spread last year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neil was discouraged in March because he only found a few small oysters—about the size of a quarter.</li> <li>• However, now, they got set early in the season this year, they picked up shells that were 1 – 3mil on the shell.</li> <li>• The shell placed last year stuck.</li> <li>• The mud is the right consistency--not too sticky, but it keeps the oysters from slipping away</li> <li>• He took pictures and will create a google album</li> </ul> <p>Neil is doing a talk at MRC conference about Olympias and Sequim Bay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clallam MRC did invertebrate sampling on Olympia oyster beds &amp; in Discovery Bay and are comparing that to mud flats in the sea. Micro what micro- invertebrates occur and see how they affect Salmon.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gordon: James Pelosi, who was charge of tracking of cutthroat when you catch in winter, they're snouts are all cut up. They come into the oyster beds and forage on the invertebrates.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heidi: Is there any way to ID other suitable location with this mud?</li> <li>• Neil: The mud is particular.</li> <li>• Gordon: the best way to find out is to try a few bags of culture. We tried Quilcene Bay and Dabob, but worked best when bags were elevated off the bottom away from drills.</li> <li>• They identified another spot in Sequim with better mud.</li> </ul> <p>Frank asked about news on European Green Crabs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neil: Not really. He will be going out there in a couple of weeks to do some Green Crab work.</li> <li>• Things are looking good, he didn't see any set on what they spread this Spring, but it's still early.</li> </ul> <p><b>Kelp (Emily)</b> Kelp Kayak Surveys: It is still survey season.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brad led the latest survey on Aug 17<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Wade flew his drone overhead.</li> <li>• One more survey on Sept on 16th if weather allows.</li> </ul> <p>Neil mentioned that he saw Kelp growing off the breakwater at PT Hudson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emily: PT Hudson was perfect experiment because there was a permit to take rocks from old jetties and put them in the water.</li> <li>• However, she does not think it worked. They think all the Kelp is natural set.</li> <li>• They tried planting kelp, but divers have checked the rocks, and the Kelp isn't coming off those rocks. It is still a success story. Sites on Bainbridge also are not growing anything.</li> <li>• An example of a big infrastructure project that is seeing results.</li> </ul> <p>Jeff: Ken Collins from Island County MRC came and did some dives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brad &amp; Jeff followed him around in Kayaks. Looks healthy, there is a lot of understory Kelp</li> </ul>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was not an official MRC project, just a recreational dive.</li> <li>• NWSC is trying to get more cooperation between MRCs. Island MRC has a boat infestation problem that started with Covid. They have been counting boats and using satellite images to see the impact on things like eelgrass.</li> </ul> <p>Chris got some images at three-meter resolution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeff contacted the company, Capella Space, who is doing these images. They want to see how far they can go and the size of boats the satellite will pick up. Jeff coordinated a deal with them, they are giving MRC free images because they want to test out their AI.</li> <li>• The thumbnail image Jeff displayed at the meeting would have cost \$4000.</li> <li>• These could be used for boat monitors or eelgrass protection.</li> <li>• Chris: the advantage to this radar is they can test at a much shorter interval. Usually, you can get one single image if you're lucky. SARS can test satellites every couple hours.</li> <li>• Resolution is comparable to the planet. Planit is the corporation that owns a constellation of satellites. A lot of their satellites pass over our area at night, so images are dark.</li> </ul> <p><b>Eelgrass Buoys (Troy)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close to ordering the four new buoys.</li> <li>• Four or five had to be replaced this year.</li> <li>• Now we will have backup buoys</li> <li>• Gordon: Once we receive them, we need to get labels put them.</li> <li>• Emily: Do you count compliance at WBF?</li> <li>• Troy: yes. Keep your eyes open for anyone anchored inside the buoys. Take pictures of non-compliance.</li> </ul> <p><b>Rain Gardens (Janette)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some gardens are getting a bit feral, but functioning.</li> <li>• It's been a challenge coordinating over the summer, getting volunteers, she has been gone a lot.</li> <li>• Last week had to be rescheduled since only a couple people were signed up. She did not want to burn out volunteers that come all the time.</li> <li>• Best way going forward produce a year-round schedule. A monthly workday. She will coordinate with Bridget Gregg and get dates into Master Gardener newsletter. That works the best in getting support from them.</li> <li>• She has been working on some of the gardens, but that's not sustainable. She is working on how to consistently get the labor to keep these gardens going.</li> <li>• After the big storms, it illustrated to her some places that could use Rain Gardens. If we cannot take care of the ones we have, it's hard to justify putting in new ones.</li> <li>• It is an ongoing work in progress.</li> </ul> <p><b>Education &amp; Outreach (Joanie)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They had a meeting Aug 13<sup>th</sup> about the WBF</li> <li>• No other updates</li> </ul> <p>Duckabush Restoration Project is starting. They are taking out power poles and digging up fiber optic lines. Very exciting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sarah mentioned that they are giving tours.</li> </ul>	<p>For October meeting: Include item to discuss more support for RG/Volunteer recruitment.</p> <p>When we do our subcommittee lead reorganizing, would like a back-up project lead.</p>	<p><b>Katie will follow up on this.</b></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heidi: wondering if anyone is tracking the impact of the fire retardant that was sprayed?</li> <li>• Gordon: new generation of fire retardants aren't as bad. Heidi said it would be interesting to confirm that.</li> </ul> <p><b>New Education &amp; Outreach person?</b> This is Joannie's last meeting. Gordon thanked Joannie for all of her work.</p> <p>Gordon announced that the MRC is very happy to have Akeylah Behrenfeld as the Youth Representative, which is a voting position. Gordon noted her vote counts the same as anyone else.</p>	We will address a replacement next meeting.	
PUBLIC COMMENT	None.		
CALL FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS/SPEAKERS	<p><b>Judy S. -Sharing Analysis on her grant.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She just received an initial analysis from consultant for her grant. She will check see if there is enough to get rolling for October, or they may have to wait until November.</li> <li>• 35 min is maximum for presentation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Rain Garden maintenance project</b></p> <p>Heidi suggested an Adopt-a-Rain-Garden Program?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Janette: Yes they've done that quite a bit without much response.</li> <li>• They had created a door tag, Monica was working on that</li> <li>• However, they think it would be more beneficial to partner with Master Gardeners</li> <li>• Four of the gardens have stewards, but they need support. Especially through growing season. April through summer.</li> </ul> <p><b>MRC Retreat at October meeting.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dates were discussed.</li> <li>• Katie will send out a formal announcement.</li> </ul>		
MRC ROUND TABLE/ ANNOUNCEMENTS	Heidi: What happens when someone leaves? Katie says it's already been advertised. Tim can apply for lead position.		
ADJOURNMENT	Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM. Next meeting will be October 1st	Troy moved to adjourn at 7:38pm. Seconded by Neil. Motion passed.	