

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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Minutes

Prepared by Kelly Zupich

October 3, 2023

HYBRID MEETING

PRESENT: Barbara Bennett, Chair, Scott Chase, Paul Ben McElwain, Greg Easton, Kirk Larsen, Patrick Havel, Kelly Webb, Ken Collins, Kes Tautvydas, Kelly Zupich, MRC staff,

ABSENT: Note if notified or un-notified - Melanie Bacon, Ex-officio, notified, Jill Lipoti, Vice Chair, notified, Elsa Schwartz, notified

VISITORS: Sasha Horst, NWSC, Caitlyn Blair, NWSC,

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.

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.

SMITH AND MINOR ISLAND AQUATIC RESERVE UPDATE: Birdie Davenport

- Adding Autonomous Reef Monitoring structures. They are installed 30 feet more than low tide then left for 2 years. Then all the creatures that attached to the structures are identified.
- Video landers are being added to multiple sites.
- Cherry Point: Light traps for larval herring. The herring stock numbers are very low this year.

WHITE PAPER: Barbara Bennett

- A presentation was made at the NWSC Meeting featuring our Climate Change White Paper along with Commissioner Bacon who spoke about the need for the paper to help guide some of the Comprehensive Plan work.
- Kelly Zupich will continue to work with groups to gain further comments on the paper and the get groups ready to endorse the paper via a letter of support.

CAMANO 101: Scott Chase

- It was a successful event! Thank you to the volunteers who helped out.

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- The attendance was lower than the previous year maybe due to having too many events back-to-back.

COORDINATORS REPORT: Kelly Zupich

- Port Susan MSA Brochure has been finalized and is ready for distribution. The Port Susan Sub Committee will come up with a plan for 2024 to get these brochures out to the Port Susan Community.
- The Shoreline Armoring Survey has started and will be finished in the next few weeks.
- The MRC/Shore Friendly Shoreline Property Workshop will be held at the Oak Harbor Library on Oct the 7th.
- Orca Recovery Day will be held at Cornet Bay on Oct 14th. Volunteers with shovels will be needed.

Meeting Adjourned 4:10pm