



WRIA 6 Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen Committee Meeting

September 20, 2023

Member Participants: Kristin Marshall (SCD), Eric Mickelson (SkagitRSC), Todd Zackey (Tulalip, Co-Chair), Paul Williams(SWS), Barbara Brock (Citizen, Co-Chair), Fred Kiga, Kelly Zupich (MRC), Renee Zavas Silva and Travis Wilmont (ICCAO), Jessica Cote **Others:** Clea Barenburg (LE Coordinator), Ann Prusha (Shore Friendly), Shawn Morris (PH director), Mary B. (Sound Salmon Solutions), Heidi (Tulalip), Lauren Birch (ICPW), Bridget K (RCO), Jill Lipoti (MRC), Barbara Bennett (MRC), Kurt Schlimme (Land Trust)

Introductions & Presentations

Ann from Shore Friendly- Public Event at Oak Harbor Sno-Isle library Shoreline Property Management for Habitat and Resiliency <https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/64ca9ed5aa9efc3700a174d6>

PSP- No representatives at meeting. Reorganization and structure changes in progress.
<https://www.psp.wa.gov/salmon-recovery-overview.php>

MRC- Climate Change and Sea level rise white paper presented. MRC looking for support from SRTCC saying we agree with information shared. Orca Recovery Day event at Hoypus on October 14th with plantings coming from mini-grant funding. Hard Armoring inventory has started and already have seen unpermitted work happening.

LE coordinator- LE coordinator has been attending monthly meetings the other Whidbey Basin LEs and sharing grant round projects and funding distribution information as well as comments on riparian funding allocations related to Riparian funding and distribution announcements this month. <https://stateofsalmon.wa.gov/>

Upcoming outreach at community events – see end of minutes.

MRC White paper presented by Jill L. and Barbara B. with input from Kelly Z and brief history presented by LE.

Links to more information- History- MRC- <https://www.islandcountymrc.org/>

Past information shared on Sea level Rise and Climate

<https://wacoastalnetwork.com/island-county-slr-strategy-post/>

<https://soundwaterstewards.org/january-king-tides-are-coming/>

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/DEM/Pages/Home.aspx>

<https://cig-wa-climate.nkn.uidaho.edu/>

<https://wacoastalnetwork.com/research-and-tools/slr-resources/>

<https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/curve.html>

<https://resilience.climate.gov/>

Administrative

The July and August meeting minutes were approved.

Discussion and Decisions

White Paper discussion- See MRC White Paper final for more information. They were asked to provide an introduction and overview of big picture to BOCC and have collected information from many groups and research papers.

Climate and Groundwater Recharge and Seawater intrusion- for more information see website-

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/650/Island-County-Groundwater-Publications>

Questions on inventory of septic systems and water usage. See website-

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/190/Onsite-Sewage-Septic-Systems>

WRAC committee history - <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3187/Topic-Paper-Water-Supply-Alternatives?bidId=>

Jessica Cote shares information on the upcoming bulkhead and sea level rise class through the Coastal training program. We will share more when available but not on the website yet. Jay Krienitz department of Ecology and large Coastal Resiliency projects and SMP projects.

Questions on enforcement – see website <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/faq.aspx?qid=76>

Questions on the Comprehensive plan and when will MRC be sharing with that committee, Fred is on the committee- <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/209/Comprehensive-Plan>

SRTCC- membership update and diversity of group and openings- <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/652/Salmon-Recovery-Technical-Citizens-Comm>

2023 PSP Public Boards Calendar review- Leadership Council Sept 12 and 13, Salmon Recovery Council Sept 28. https://www.psp.wa.gov/board_meetings.php

PSAR 15 year review- <https://www.psp.wa.gov/PSAR.php>

2023 SRFB Grant Round – SRFB meeting Sept 13 and 14th. SRFB Funding of projects moving forward with allocation for WRIA 6 at 278,102 and PSAR from last year at 809,000. Funding approved and completed. See details in Salmon Recovery Grant Funding Report- <https://rco.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/SAL-Grants-2023.pdf>

Crescent Creek restoration- cleared look to SRFB to cover 276,180 requested. They are providing match. Fits well with SRFB 278,102. SRFB for more Chinook specific and salmon recovery and PSAR can be used for other species recovery. Keystone to receive remaining funds and will look to PSAR for additional funding. Update from Kurt and plan to remove house and bulkhead first for habitat restoration on shoreline.

Whidbey Basin group all had some level of PSAR from last year. Over 8 million to all the Whidbey Basin groups and close to enough to cover all of the request. There is hope with the addition of riparian funding that all request will be covered.

Riparian funding discussion at the state level with allocation specifics being worked out at this time. Will they distribute an amount to each LE with WRIA 6 looking to receive 300K or more like 400K. Will there be 10% given to create a riparian plan? More discussion on this next month. Lower Crescent Creek to receive Riparian funding from Skagit LE. We have areas in WRIA 6 that are on priority lists for other LE's in the Whidbey Basin. Riparian funding coming to 2024 grant round at least 300,000.

Snohomish Conservation District with CCC tide-gate feasibility and Preliminary Design update- Final report to be submitted this week. They will continue to make contact with community and get feedback. Does SRTCC support the project? Yes, important to get some work done in the Port Susan area with documented Chinook use. SCD has new project managers starting. Homeowners' association in support of moving forward with the project with majority membership support. Idea for potential tours for homeowners to see similar sites to help with concerns. <https://secure.rco.wa.gov/prism/search/projectsnapshot.aspx?ProjectNumber=18-1382>

Upcoming Outreach and education-

- CAMANO 101: LIVING ON AN ISLAND
Saturday, September 30, 2023 1:00 PM 4:00 PM

- The Island County MRC and Shore Friendly Program and partnering with Sno-Isle Libraries to host a workshop for shoreline homeowners! Learn about enhancing habitat, managing erosion, preparing for sea level rise, and the programs that may be available to you. The workshop will take place on Saturday, October 7th from 10am-2pm at the Oak Harbor Library. Advance registration is required. Register here: <https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/64ca9ed5aa9efc3700a174d6>.
- October 14th- Join the Northwest Straits Foundation and Island County MRC in stewarding the Cornet Bay and Hoypus Point restoration sites! Together, we will be removing weeds and adding more native plants to provide shade and food for salmon and forage fish, which in turn helps our beloved Orcas. nwstraitsfoundation.salsalabs.org/orcarecoverydaycornetbay/index.html
- October 20th- [Nurturing Nature: Life Cycle of Salish Sea Salmon](#) 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Friday
[Oak Harbor Library](#)Event location: [Oak Harbor Library](#)
Join Island County Natural Resources staff and learn about the salmon cycle of life and connections with the long-standing traditions that are still practiced today by the Native American peoples of the Puget Sound region.

Information we will look at more carefully in October-

- Input on recruiting members as well as input on predicting future projects and 4 year plans, SRTCC committee members please send input for future meetings. Lessons learned from this grant round and why projects did not make it through and why others were successful. Review project development recruitment approach and acquisition priorities. Meeting adjourned a little after 4

SRTCC Upcoming Meetings 2023:

- October 18th, 2023 – 2:00-4:00 PM – Zoom
- November 15th, 2023 – 2:00-4:00 PM – Zoom
- December 20th, 2023 – 2:00-4:00 PM – Zoom
- **SRTCC meetings 2024:**
- January 17th, 2024 - 2:00-4:00 PM - Zoom