



# Island County

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## Natural Resources Newsletter June 2024

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## Natural Resources Newsletter

June/July 2024

### Announcements



### New Team Member!

We are happy to welcome our new Shore Friendly Coordinator, Valerie dos Santos! Valerie brings a rich background that extends from hands-on environmental fieldwork to administrative leadership across academic and corporate domains.

She is a driven and adept professional committed to fostering excellence in scientific processes and managerial endeavors. Her portfolio spans a broad spectrum, including conducting biological surveys, orchestrating fieldwork for endangered species, and managing administrative functions alongside engaging stakeholders. Equipped with a bachelor's degree in animal science and a master's in wildlife Conservation and Management, Valerie offers a distinctive fusion of skills in data analytics, project oversight, and team cultivation.

## Bull Kelp Monitoring

The Island County Marine Resources is gearing up to start Bull kelp monitoring for the season. We monitor these vital underwater forests to learn more about their health. A group of dedicated volunteers go out monthly during the summer months to kayak and measure these beds. The data is then compiled and available on [SoundIQ \(cob.org\)](#).

[For more information, click here.](#)

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## Programmatic Updates

### Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting

We will be hosting our Noxious Weed Control board meeting on June 24th, 10-11:30 am. Meeting will take place at the WSU Meeting room, located at WSU extension building located at 390 N Main St, Coupeville, WA 98239.

### Salmon Recovery

The next Salmon Recovery Technical and Citizen Committee (SRTCC) meeting will be held Wednesday June 26th from 2:00-4:00 pm For more information please contact Clea Barenburg, Lead Entity Program Coordinator, [c.barenburg@islandcountywa.gov](mailto:c.barenburg@islandcountywa.gov).

SRTCC will be discussing the review, scoring, ranking, and approval of the project list for the proposals in the 2024 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) Grant Round. SRFB decision for project funding.

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## Events

### MRC Stewardship Event

**June 12th, Cornet Bay & Hoypus Point**

The Marine Resources Committee with the Northwest Straits Foundation hosted our first stewardship event of the year. Volunteers and staff came together to plant 35 Nootka roses and 750 Dune grass. If you are interested in joining us this spring/summer sign up here: [Cornet Bay & Hoypus Point Stewardship Days \(salsalabs.org\)](#).

[Click here for more information.](#)

### Noxious Weeds 101

**June 7th, 4:00 - 5:00PM at the Oak Harbor Library**

Learn about noxious weed species in Island County, their expansion, and how to deal with this threat to your property, from Seth Luginbill, Island County noxious weeds program coordinator.

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## Learn + Act



## Multi-Lingual Flood Risk Information

PSI is offering Spanish, Vietnamese, and Chinese translations of the article "Studies target increasing flood risks" in our magazine Salish Sea Currents.

The translations were funded by the Habitat Strategic Initiative Lead to reach a wider audience with information about climate change and flood risks.

- Leer en español ([PDF](#))
- Đọc bằng tiếng Việt ([PDF](#))
- 阅读中文版 ([PDF](#))

## Orca Action Month

Orca Action Month is brought to you by the Orca Salmon Alliance which is composed of multiple regional, national, and international groups with diverse interests and areas of focus.

Their collaborative structure allows them to advocate on a variety of issues under one primary goal: to prevent the extinction of the Southern Resident killer whales by recovering the wild Chinook populations upon which the whales depend for their survival. For more information on how Island County Salmon projects are supporting Orca recovery see our Natural Resources website and for more on Orca Month Events visit their site- <https://www.orcamonth.com/event>

## Conservation Futures Program Citizen's Advisory Board of Island County

Are you dedicated to conserving and enhancing natural areas, forests, and agricultural lands in Island County for future generations? Are you committed to ensuring Island County's open spaces are equitably accessible? Are you a resident of Island County?

If your answers are "yes", you may be a candidate for Island County's Conservation Futures Program Citizen's Advisory Board!

For more information go to the Island County Conservation Futures Citizen's Advisory Board webpage by [clicking here](#).

Thank you for your interest in Island County Natural Resources.

For more information, contact Sarah Ruether: [J.Schmitz@islandcountywa.gov](mailto:J.Schmitz@islandcountywa.gov) or 360-682-8832.

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