



Island County

Serving the communities of Camano & Whidbey Islands

Island County Natural Resources November 2024

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Natural Resources Newsletter

November 2024

Announcements



World Fisheries Day

On November 21, countries across the globe will celebrate World Fisheries Day—a day recognizing the integral role fisheries have in sustaining human lives and ensuring healthy ocean ecosystems. Learn more about sustainable fishing practices, salmon recovery, and [more on the Island County website](#).

Programmatic Updates

Marine Resources Committee

The Island County Marine Resources Committee (MRC) is an advisory body to county government established in 1999 and comprised of many community volunteers who represent diverse interests and industries, with the common goal to protect and restore marine resources in the Puget Sound area through scientific monitoring, restoration projects, and community education.

This meeting is held on the first Tuesday of every month from 4:00-6:00PM. For more information, visit our website by [clicking here](#). This month the meeting will be on November 5th, 2024.

Join using [this link via Zoom](#).

Meeting ID: 810 5664 1008

Passcode: 566046

Citizen's Advisory Board

To ensure the properties purchased with Conservation Futures tax dollars are used in the best possible manner, the Conservation Futures Program Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) was created by the Board of County Commissioners to evaluate and make recommendations on project applications.

The CAB meets at 10 AM on the first Thursday of each month. You can find the Agenda and how to attend the meetings [here](#). This month, that meeting will take place on November 7th, 2024.

Please note that there will be no CAB meeting in December.

Use [this link for more information](#).

Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen's Committee (SRTCC)

The Salmon Recovery Technical & Citizen's Committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month. The work focus is within the Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA) 6. Please contact our lead entity Clea Barenburg if you are interested in joining this committee.

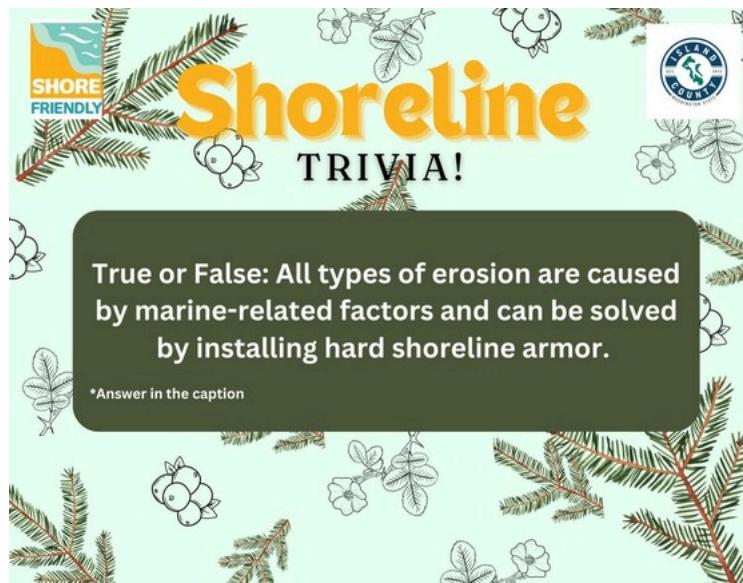
This month's meeting will occur on November 20th, 2024.

The SRTCC prioritizes and supports salmon recovery projects, provides technical assistance, revises the Salmon Recovery Plan, and ensures projects align with community goals. They act as a hub for salmon-related efforts, secure funding, promote scientific research, and educate the public on ecosystem processes vital to salmon recovery.

Use [this link for more information](#).

Learn + Act

Shoreline Trivia



The Answer is False!

The Ealing Beaver Project

The Ealing Beaver Project is a groundbreaking initiative aimed at fostering urban human-beaver coexistence. As London, England's first fully accessible urban beaver reintroduction site, they are dedicated to bringing people closer to nature right in the heart of the city.

The three objectives of the Ealing Beaver Project include:

1. Flood mitigation – an area prone to flooding during rain events and projected to cost the area a lot of money to engineer flood control, has already seen drastic improvements with beaver reintroduction.
2. Boosting biodiversity – the reintroduced beavers have significantly improved the water quality in the area, turned up garbage from the pond sediment that is removed by volunteers, and created suitable habitat for more aquatic insects, rare birds, and nearly extinct small mammals.
3. Public engagement – The reintroduction site is fully accessible to the public and in an urban setting. Volunteers have assisted in cleaning up the area, a local artist was commissioned to paint a breathtaking mural in the access tunnel, and the public was present for the releasing of the beavers.

There are points around the site to take photos and compare to other times of year or previous years, and there are continuing outreach events on site. This project is very exciting, and showcases how it is possible to coexist with beavers and reap the benefits they naturally provide.

Click [this link for more information.](#)

Shore Friendly Plant of the Month

Named for Nootka Sound, a waterway on the west coast of Vancouver Island in British Columbia, the Nootka Rose is sometimes called Common, Wild, or Bristly Rose.

Traditionally used for food, medicine, and ceremonial purposes by Native Americans, the Nootka Rose is now used for soil erosion control on hillsides and stream banks. The Nootka rose is beautiful, but can be aggressive. It is great as a barrier plant, growing into an impenetrable thicket. This is why it's so valuable for stabilizing banks!

Do you have questions about your shoreline property? [Request a visit.](#)

For more information about how we can help manage shorelines and the natural process of erosion, we encourage you to check out this series of Shore Friendly Living videos on Youtube. [Click the link here](#) to access the second in the series.



Thank you for your interest in Island County Natural Resources.

For more information, contact Jen Schmitz: J.Schmitz@islandcountywa.gov or 360-914-0841.

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