

**Jefferson County Marine Resources Committee  
Virtual Zoom Meeting  
February 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

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**Present:**

Brenda Johnson, Chair, District 2  
 Troy McKelvey, Vice Chair, Recreation  
 Neil Harrington, Tribal  
 Jeff Taylor, District 2, NWSC Rep.  
 Frank Handler, District 2 Alt.  
 Joanie Hendricks, District 3 Alt  
 Betsy Carlson, Envir/Conserv  
 Carol Hasse, Port of Port Townsend  
 Heidi Eisenhour, *ex officio*, BoCC District 2  
 Roy Clark, Recreation Alt.  
 Brent Vadopalas, Marine Sci Alt  
 Sarah Fiskens, District 3, NWSC Alt.  
 Solenne Walker, District 1  
 Janette Mestre, District 1  
 Heather Burns, District 3  
 Bryan DeCaterina, Env/Conserv Alt.

**Absent:**

Liz Hoenig-Kanieski, District 1 Alt.  
 Gordon King, Commercial Interest  
 Judy Surber, City of Port Townsend  
 Nam Siu, Marine Science

**Guests:** Matthew Klontz, Barbara Moore-Lewis,  
 Cheryl Lowe, Bridget Gregg, Leah Robison, Kara  
 Cardinal, Jeff Whitty, Carol McCreary, Patrick  
 Johnson

**Staff:** Monica Montgomery, MRC Coordinator

Topic	Update or Issue	Decisions/Follow-Up	Responsibility
CALL TO ORDER GUEST INTRODUCTIONS	Chair Brenda Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Welcomed guests and MRC members.	A quorum was present.	All members – please send volunteer hours to Monica
AMENDMENTS TO/APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Brenda made a small change to the agenda – at 6:45pm Heidi will give the BoCC update followed by Carol Hasse, replacement for Pam Petranek, Port of PT representative.	Neil moved to approve the agenda as amended. Bryan seconded. Motion passed.	
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Brenda asked for approval/amendments to the Agenda. Motion to approve by Neil, which was seconded by Bryan. Agenda was approved as amended.  Brenda asked for approval/amendments to the January 2022 Minutes. Joan moved to approve, which was seconded by Sarah. Minutes passed as written.	Joan moved to approve the January minutes. Seconded by Sarah. Motion passed.	
PUBLIC COMMENT	No public comment.		
GUEST SPEAKER Matthew Klontz, Port of PT Capital Projects Director and Chief Engineer	<b>Point Hudson Jetty Update – Matthew Klontz</b>  <u>Project Background</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Emphasized importance of the Breakwater Improvement Project to the community and Port</li> <li>o One year ago, Mike Love presented project scope, purpose and need for the project to the MRC; Today will focus on how the project is accounting for sea level rise and addressing corrosion</li> <li>o Located at the east end of Port Townsend, breakwater was originally constructed in the 1930s and repaired in the 1950s</li> <li>o Consists of south and north jetty and a bulkhead inside the marina</li> </ul> <u>New breakwater design</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Will be built to resemble the existing breakwater, using new materials</li> <li>o Creosote pilings will be replaced with 360 steel piles (uncoated, take on a rusty brown color which will resemble existing timbers)</li> <li>o Rock on interior of breakwater to provide resistance to tidal flow</li> <li>o Target design life of 40 years</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Design storm – 50-year wave = 4.4 ft</li> <li>o Highest observed water level (max tide) = 11.73 ft</li> <li>o Top elevation = 11.73 + 4.4 = 16.13 ft</li> <li>o Existing breakwater is 13 ft, new will be 16 ft (same elevation as breakwater in the Boat Haven)</li> </ul> <p><u>Sea Level Rise</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o January 7, 2022, predicted high tide of 9.55 ft with actual tide height of 11.44 ft; saw overtopping in Boat Haven, small amount of flooding at Point Hudson, water level rose to top of existing breakwater</li> <li>o Predicted SLR is 1.3 ft in 50 years, with confidence interval of 50% (50% likely to be 1.3 ft or less)</li> <li>o Rationale for building the breakwater 16ft tall and not 17.3ft (incorporating SLR): likelihood of a max tide event occurring in combination with a 50-yr design storm is very low</li> <li>o A taller breakwater would increase the width of the base, and have a greater ecological impact</li> </ul> <p><u>Pile corrosion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o There are several uncoated steel piles in Point Hudson that were added during repair to breakwater after boat collision, have been in water for 12 years</li> <li>o Corrosion rate is highest in the splash zone</li> <li>o WSDOT Coleman dock project – built in 2017, noticed bright orange on steel piles = microbially influenced corrosion (some organisms eat the steel, others eat byproducts)</li> <li>o Photo from June 2021 during a low tide event at Point Hudson show the same bright orange on the steel piles</li> <li>o Potentially influenced by Point Hudson water quality, compromised by discharge of blackwater tanks</li> <li>o Port is planning several options for boat pump-out facilities to improve water quality in the marina</li> </ul> <p><u>Questions/Discussion</u></p> <p>Bryan – What is the permitting timeline?  Matthew Klontz (MK) – Port is in consultation with marine services, close to having a biological opinion from NOAA, and NEPA from USFS. Still in waiting phase. Working on state and local permits. Next step is SEPA for Port of PT and JARPA for WDFW.</p> <p>Neil – Jetty elevation for south jetty?  MK – 14-15ft.</p> <p>Solenne – Worst case scenario, overtopping of 1.3ft meets Army Corps limits. What are Army Corps limits?  MK – 17.3ft is near upper limit, don't have an exact number.  Jeff – One or two feet over predicted tide is not unusual and commonly occurs with wave action.</p> <p>Janette – Has water quality testing been done to know source of WQ issues?  MK – No WQ testing has been done, purely speculation based on issues elsewhere.</p> <p>Janette – Choice of untreated steel pipes was made for aesthetic reasons. Were other coatings or materials considered?  MK – Looking at galvanized steel, other treatment type is plastic coating around piles. Evaluating pros/cons of the options. Preferred is uncoated pile, and pile thickness could be increased to account for corrosion.</p>		
BoCC REPORT	<p><b>Commissioner Eisenhour</b> – Update from BoCC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o No site-specific project updates</li> <li>o Regional septage capacity (solids in septic tank) reaching critical point for wastewater treatment to handle. Need a better wastewater solution for east Jefferson County</li> <li>o Wrote a letter of support for legislation on kelp restoration, directed at DNR to do more for kelp forests</li> <li>o Tracking specific shoreline code compliance issues (52 active cases of people out of compliance, ~30-50% are likely shoreline)</li> <li>o Vocal advocate for removal of 4 lower Snake River dams</li> <li>o Working on expansion of Dabob Bay Natural Area Preserve, and renewal of DNR trust land transfer program</li> <li>o As Chair of Strait ERN LIO, working with Kara Cardinal (new Strait ERN Coordinator) to develop priorities in partnership with board tribes</li> </ul>		
Port of PT UPDATES	<p><b>Commissioner Hasse</b> – Update from Port of PT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Carol Hasse, looking forward to collaboration between the MRC and Port of PT</li> </ul>		

<p>RECENT MEETING REPORTS AND ISSUE UPDATES</p>	<p><b>NWSC Meeting</b> (Jeff) –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o In-person annual meeting in November 18-19<sup>th</sup> at Maple Hall in La Conner, WA</li> <li>o Feb 17<sup>th</sup>, Climate Change Symposium, fourth in the series, will be focused on local action</li> <li>o Caroline Gibson Scholarship Fund has begun accepting applications – check the Foundation’s website</li> <li>o Critter Cards – beer coasters for local restaurants</li> </ul>	<p>NWSC Climate Change Symposium 4, this is the final event in the series (open by invitation only to MRC members, staff, and other Northwest Straits Initiative participants). More information will be sent by email:  <a href="https://www.nwstraits.org/get-involved/events/">https://www.nwstraits.org/get-involved/events/</a></p> <p>Link to Caroline Gibson scholarship fund:  <a href="https://nwstraitsfoundation.org/get-involved/caroline-gibson-scholarship-fund/">https://nwstraitsfoundation.org/get-involved/caroline-gibson-scholarship-fund/</a></p>	
<p>Administrative</p>	<p><b>Monica – 2022 MRC guest speakers</b>  Shared results of the guest speaker/topic poll, with top ranking: Lisa Hillier on WDFW forage fish index sites; Derelict Vessel Removal Program; and Julie Keister on OA effects on zooplankton ecology. Will share the list of guest speakers with the group.</p> <p><b>Brenda – Sharing MRC Minutes</b>  Brenda would like to share MRC minutes with the group earlier than one week before the next meeting. Mentioned the importance for MRC members of talking to your alternate to communicate what happened at the meeting.</p> <p><b>Monica – BoCC presentation</b>  Presenting updates from the MRC to the BoCC on March 28<sup>th</sup>, around 1:30pm. Anyone interested in presenting or being available to answer questions about specific projects, reach out to Monica.</p> <p><b>Monica – Prioritizing Congressionally Directed Spending Project List</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The MRC brainstormed the list of projects in November; now looking at prioritizing projects to be funded</li> <li>o Once federal budget is approved, this will trigger NOAA to create rules for distributing the funds and may determine what kinds of projects will be funded</li> <li>o Monica will share document for MRC members to consider for prioritization</li> </ul> <p><b>Heidi</b> – talked to Sea Grant, moving forward with a solution for derelict vessel recycling program</p> <p><b>Solenne</b> – initiation of derelict vessel recycling program with an effort to recycle fiberglass vessels in PT. Part of the solution is working with PT foundry, but they do not want all the vessels. Need to reach out to DTG for more of a regional solution.</p>		
<p>CURRENT &amp; UPCOMING PROJECTS</p>	<p><b>Forage Fish Monitoring</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Jeff (Adelma) – sampled a few days ago</li> <li>o Sarah (Dabob) – sampled on the 25<sup>th</sup>, will be dropping off samples to WDFW tomorrow</li> <li>o Janette (Fort Townsend) – sampled a week ago; have dates scheduled for February and March</li> <li>o Samplers are using WDFW blue bowl method for preparing samples, sending those to WDFW.</li> <li>o Janette took photos of two potential new index sites. Let Monica know if you would like to take the lead on one of the new sites.</li> </ul> <p><b>No-Anchor Zones</b> (Troy) –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 10 buoy lines located and serviced in front of PT, 3 more to go. Next, Hadlock and Mystery Bay. Team did an excellent job – Pam steering the boat, Bryan and Gordon dove on the buoys, cleaned ropes, etc.</li> </ul> <p><b>Kelp</b> (Solenne) –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o WA State senate and house bills with the goal to conserve and restore 10,000 acres of kelp forests by 2040.</li> <li>o Floating kelp canopy is a new vital sign for Puget Sound, used as an indicator for the health of Puget Sound. Next workshop will be June 7<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>o DNR and partners are interested in creating an understory kelp vital sign as well. NWSC/DNR are identifying data gaps. NWSC and DNR put together a kelp interactive story map (Dec 2021). <a href="https://www.arcgis.com">Mapping bull kelp forest canopies with aerial imagery (arcgis.com)</a></li> <li>o Most MRCs have 6 years of kelp kayak survey mapping data and starting to identify long term trends, e.g., 30%</li> </ul>	<p>MRC members interested in leading forage fish monitoring efforts at new index sites should get in touch with Monica.</p> <p>Link to submit comments on the Kelp Bill:  <a href="https://www.wa.gov/legislature">Washington State Legislature</a></p> <p>To participate in Kelp Vital Sign workshops or join mailing list, visit <a href="https://www.arcgis.com">Kelp Canopy Vital Sign for Puget Sound (arcgis.com)</a> Next workshop will be June 7<sup>th</sup>.</p>	

	<p>annual variation is considered within the range of natural variation. Long term trends will support vital sign data. Weather, current, and swell conditions can account for some data spikes in kelp mapping (very important to collect those data).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o DNR surveys have found that North Beach bed had highest kelp species diversity observed (more diverse than Freshwater Bay, Edmonds, Magnolia, Wing Point, Doe Kag Wats).</li> <li>o Tyler Cowdrey, who used drone surveys to map kelp beds with WA DNR Nearshore Habitat Program may fly drone surveys of North Beach kelp bed during summer survey season 2022.</li> <li>o Proposal to do linear extent surveys of North Beach kelp bed in motorized boats in 2022.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mapping lost crab pots (Jeff) –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o ROV project: in the process of preparing to remove pots this spring. Trialing different ways to survey. 1) ROV with search protocols, 2) using data from side scan sonar survey, 3) high-resolution fish finders that do side scanning (depths might prohibit this method). If anyone has access to a fish finder, reach out to Jeff.</li> <li>o Working on getting permit approval from WDFW to remove pots: scientific collection permit needed along with removal project plans.</li> <li>o Kara – Quileute/Quinault Tribes worked with consultant to do a lost gear retrieval project, paid tribal fishermen to use their boats through a NOAA marine debris grant. Might be a good resource to learn how they did it.</li> </ul> <p><b>Storm surge monitoring (Jeff) –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Outgrowth of king tide project. Worked with Ian Miller at Sea Grant. Storm surge is a large data gap in climate change models, with uncertainties around modeling predictions.</li> <li>o One project – index sites, Salmon Club boat ramp, look at storm surge on top of wave ride-up.</li> <li>o Another project – specially trained homeowners take measurement of total water level, submit photos, using MyCoast app. <a href="https://mycoast.org/wa">https://mycoast.org/wa</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Rain Gardens (Janette) –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Brenda and Janette assessed maintenance needs of 14 MRC co-sponsored rain gardens in PT</li> <li>o Rain gardens are still functional, but many are overgrown and are not percolating as well as they should. Additionally, aesthetic considerations and increased signage are important for educational outreach</li> <li>o Maintenance projects need hands and people with botanical knowledge; need to reach out to community, homeowners, Master Gardeners for assistance and Public Works for more technical issues. Materials (plants, mulch) will require funds.</li> </ul> <p>Carol – whose responsibility is it to maintain the rain gardens? Group – Varies depending on location, need to clarify with Bob Simmons.</p>	<p>Jeff is looking for access to a fish finder for the crab pot removal project.</p> <p>Volunteers are needed for rain garden maintenance. Reach out to Monica if interested.</p>	
PUBLIC COMMENT	<p><b>Carol McCreary</b> – Expressed appreciation for MRC members and their work leading citizen science and education efforts.</p> <p><b>Patrick Johnson</b> – Interested in maritime/marine issues, MRC meetings help citizens to be better stewards of the marine environment. Also appreciates the educational outreach efforts of the MRC.</p>		
MRC Roundtable/ Announcements	<p><b>Joan</b> – read document that Barbara Moore-Lewis presented at the last meeting, regarding logging at Black Point MPR development site. According to the document, 60% of timber has been removed including large trees that should have been retained if possible. Maps provided differed from EIS (sewer system placement). Water rights were not finalized and did not have an approved water plan from Dept of Health. County ordinances put in place were violated, yet nothing happened until citizens reported the developer's violations. County has not been helpful to the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe's numerous natural and cultural resource-related requests. It is a very large development – 257 acres, 890 condominiums, 18-hole golf course, 290 marina slips, conference facilities, etc. – that will have impacts on the Dosewallips and Duckabush estuaries. The mission as the MRC is to protect the marine environment – as a group need to advise county commissioners to follow this issue closely.</p>		

	<p><b>Barbara Moore-Lewis</b> – took aerial photos of the Black Point development today and will upload to the Brinnon Group's website: <a href="http://www.brinnongroup.org/#">http://www.brinnongroup.org/#</a></p> <p><b>Sarah</b> – Port of PT is hosting a meeting at the Quilcene Community Center tomorrow night 5-7pm to discuss the Quilcene marina area.</p>		
ADJOURNMENT	Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm. Next meeting will be March 1st.	Solenne moved to adjourn, seconded by Bryan. Motion passed.	