



**SAN JUAN COUNTY**  
**Marine Resources**  
**Committee**



## **Marine Advisory Committees**

### **MRC-CAG-LIO**

### **Meeting Agenda**

**Thursday, June 6th, 2024**  
**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

### **Microsoft Teams meeting**

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

**[Click here to join the meeting](#)**

**Meeting ID: 212 282 672 473**

**Passcode: ydbgAV**

**Or call in (audio only)**

**[+1 360-726-3293,,74688859#](#) United States, Seattle**

**Phone Conference ID: 746 888 859#**

*While this is a virtual meeting, a public meeting place is available at the County Legislative Building, Large Legislative Conference Room, at 55 2nd St. in Friday Harbor for those without mobile phone or internet access.*

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| 9:00 AM | <b>Convene MRC Meeting – <i>Christina Koons</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 9:05 AM | <b>Public Comment</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 9:10 AM | <b>Approve meeting agenda – <i>All</i></b><br><b>Approve MRC April meeting minutes – <i>MRC Members</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 9:15 AM | <b>NWSC Meeting Report to the MRC – <i>Christina Koons/Karin Roemers-Kleven</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 9:20 AM | <b>MRC Updates/Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MRC Membership Renewals/Interview planning- <i>Sam Whitridge</i></li><li>• MRC Liaison to the Climate and Sustainability Advisory Committee- <i>Sam Whitridge</i></li><li>• MRC Youth Membership Idea- <i>Sandy Wyllie-Echeverria</i></li><li>• Update on Vessel Surveys- <i>Frances Robertson</i></li><li>• Oil Spill Related Topics<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ F/V Chief Joseph Sinking- <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven</i></li><li>○ Board of Pilotage decision around geographic area for tug escort rulemaking- <i>Cindy Wolf</i></li><li>○ Update on Transmountain Pipeline Expansion Project- <i>Lovel Pratt</i></li></ul></li><li>• MRC subcommittee updates<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Outreach &amp; Education- <i>Katie Johnson</i></li><li>○ Marine Stewardship – <i>Frances Robertson</i></li></ul></li></ul> |

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|          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plastic Free Salish Sea- <i>Karin Roemers-Kleven/Katie Johnson</i></li> <li>○ Eelgrass Protection- <i>Beth Tate/Katie Johnson</i></li> <li>○ Derelict Vessel Prevention- <i>Adam Parrott/Kari Koski</i></li> <li>○ ERTV/Oil Spill Prevention and Response Preparedness-<i>Sam Whitridge</i></li> <li>○ Other subcommittee updates</li> </ul> |
| 10:30 AM | <b>Committee member updates and any other business</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|          | <b>Adjourn MRC Meeting</b><br><b>Convene CAG Meeting</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|          | <b>CAG Updates –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>No CAG Meeting this month. Salmon Recovery proposal scoring/ranking will occur at July and August meetings.</i></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|          | <b>Adjourn CAG Meeting</b><br><b>Convene LIO Meeting</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 10:30 AM | <b>Presentation: Oil Spill Progress Indicators- <i>Laura Vary, Puget Sound Partnership</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 11:00 AM | <b>LIO Updates/Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSP Updates- <i>Jason Lim</i></li> <li>• On-site Sewage (OSS) workshop follow-up- <i>Katie Johnson</i></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 11:30 AM | <b>Presentation: Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Lead partnership- <i>Colin Hume, Dept of Ecology; Libby Gier, Dept of Ecology; Kayla Seaforth, Bonneville Environmental Foundation</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 12:00 PM | <b>Adjourn LIO Meeting</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

**MRC, CAG and LIO Committee Members in Attendance:** Matt Arata, David Checkley, Jeff Dyer, Kailey Genther, Brian Goodremont, Christina Koons, Adam Parrott, Lovel Pratt, Karin Roemers-Kleven, Beth Tate, Sandy Wyllie-Echeverria

**Ex-officio, County support staff and members of the public:** Abigail Ames, Kate Combs, Tyler Davis, Marta Green, Katie Johnson, Kari Koski, Jason Lim, Dana Oster, Jessica Owens, Laura Pitts, Frances Robertson, Elaina Thompson, Laura Vary, Sam Whitridge, Jeff Whitty, Cindy Wolf

10:38 AM **Convene LIO meeting**

10:38 AM **Presentation: Oil Spill Progress Indicators**

*Laura Vary*

Laura shares screen for presentation. New type of indicator, the Action Agenda Progress Indicator. Human activities that influence ecosystem conditions are evaluated. Aim to track recovery and change, home in on actions being called for in the Action Agenda that we can influence. Progress Indicators will be used to see if we're having expected management outcomes, for awareness, adaptive management and help serve an accountability role by identifying where continued investment is needed. Our website, Puget Sound Info, has a model focused on vital signs and vital sign indicators. Progress Indicators will include decreased oil spills and spill volumes, and better access to response equipment. Lara reviews proposed progress indicators for this topic (oil spill numbers, financial damages, response equipment grants). We'll report on these progress indicators on our website with some interactive dashboards.

### **QUESTIONS**

Lara: would you use these indicators? What are some gaps or outstanding barriers? Other reporting considerations?

Lovel: the solutions you're talking about implementing don't address prevention, that's an important critical indicator. Oil spill management is an unfortunate way to look at the situation, there are ways to quantify and document prevention as it's meaningfully applied to avoid oil spills altogether. For example, a real focus of this LIO has been identifying and quantifying the need for an ERTV specifically to address oil spills. One way is to look at investments made in prevention measures. That's a significant expense but amortize it against the cost of spills.

Jeff: how to quantify the unreported spills? Unmanned fuel stations, any boat on the water has the power to hold oil.

Cindy: looking at bird contaminations and shellfish bed closures could be good metrics for quantifying impact

Elaina: For outstanding barriers/gaps, what about personnel? You can have equipment grants, but need people to maintain, inventory and use it. And regionally, we have a lot of ignorant recreational boaters. Need more education, more potential requirements for recreational boating, more responsibility on smaller boating standards.

Frankie: recommend tapping into some existing groups, work with what is being done and don't reinvent the wheel

Kari: a gap seems to be in the mid-size commercial operations- not recreational fishing and not container shipping-commercial fishing for example. SeaGrant could make it regional campaign not just individual org efforts

Lara: My contact information is [laura.vary@psp.wa.gov](mailto:laura.vary@psp.wa.gov) - I will share slides with Sam and appreciate any other thoughts, questions, or concerns you send my way! (*Note: slides sent to members June 6<sup>th</sup>*)

Marta: It was due to San Juan LIO that oil spill threat was added to the 2014 Action Agenda. We are the only LIO to identify oil spill prevention as a priority strategy in our Ecosystem Protection and Recovery Strategy. A prevention indicator is needed; perhaps through incident occurrence and mitigation measures that avert grounding/spill.

11:13 AM **LIO Updates/Business**

• PSP Updates *Jason Lim*

We have a new ERC on board so the team is at full-staff, and we are going forward with OSS plans

- On-site Sewage (OSS) workshop follow-up *Katie Johnson*

Thanks to everyone who could attend. Some movement with PSP with LIO action plans

Sam: this was a worthwhile exercise to go through this process. So many challenges related to this issue.

Katie sent out the Action Plan document that we've officially adopted as the SJ Action Plan.

MOTION: Dave moves that we approve the Action plan, Sandy seconds. All in favor, none opposed

Other announcements:

Abigail: We closed out our 1.0 grant period, we're working on synthesis of those projects. Looking forward to having highlights and stories from the region in coming months, hopefully a story map about pollution identification and correction. The other update is working on next investment priority, plan to announce in July. Next shellfish RFP out by end of summer. Working with advisory board to mix things up in terms of types of projects

Cindy: we have a new County manager starting in July, Jessica Hudson.

Brian: based on data from Pacific Whale Watch association, we've seen the highest number of Biggs killer whales

ever recorded since Jan 1. More sightings of individual whales, and higher frequency of whales. Lots of spring chinook and J pod has been around a lot.

11:25 AM quick break

11:30 AM Presentation: Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Lead partnership

*Colin Hume, Libby Gier, Kayla Seaforth* From Ecology. The Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Lead.

Work Plan focus areas – figuring out what system needs to support implementation. Pilot different approaches (e.g. ecosystem service payments), support long-term approaches. Anticipating RFP late fall 2024/early winter 2025. Looking for ways to integrate application process and requirements with other grant programs. Colin shares conceptual model, including partner engagement workshops in different regions

Libby: shares interactive tool for brainstorming themes and topics in riparian restoration. Each includes questions for engagement, e.g. what does SJ LIO need in this type of work? What are limiting factors/barriers to success?

Click the link to join the Mural Board to participate on your screen, or comment verbally:

<https://app.mural.co/t/stormwatersil3572/m/stormwatersil3572/1717604481907/4f1f32f3ff779f6f6661695af8e0c48467fff88d?sender=u1299dc3a74db56f8422d8095>

Colin: it would be great to know how SJ LIO is thinking about riparian restoration, how much of a priority is it.

-some discussion – enforcement wouldn't be funded, but change analysis surveys would be

Lovel: I can share a report that Friends of the San Juans did on change analysis

Colin: [colin.hume@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:colin.hume@ecy.wa.gov) Grant funding generally not used to meet mitigation requirements. We aren't restricted to planting trees on nearshore areas, also interested in working on removing structures as needed

Cindy: Shading is important, but there are other improvements that could be made to fish passage

Sam: livestock exclusion (fencing out) is a huge issue here to degradation of riparian buffers. Also, organic inputs, erosion, and invasive species control. We have 8 streams identified as priorities around the Islands. Not much natural spawning, but rearing and small-scale spawning, (potential) cutthroat streams. We have used the Island Conservation Corps, through the Conservation District, as field crews for various planting efforts, but that's a huge gap – logistical challenges of getting work crews on site. Having resources to support ongoing maintenance.

- Tyler describes importance of the right type of plants, seed banks from SJI's or places with similar micro-climate.

-Libby: we'll leave the board open for a few more days if you come up with some solutions that are fundable for us, we want to know more what we can do to help you with riparian restoration

12:03 PM Adjourn LIO Meeting