

WASHINGTON COASTAL MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Final Meeting Summary

Wednesday, July 9, 2014 9:30 am – 3:30pm

Location: Port of Grays Harbor Commissioners Chambers, 111 S. Wooding St. Aberdeen, WA

Council Members Present	
Alla Weinstein, Energy Industry	Michal Rechner, DNR
Brian Sheldon, Shellfish Aquaculture	Michele Culver, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Carol Ervest, Wahkiakum MRC	Miles Batchelder, WA Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership
Casey Dennehy, Recreation	Penny Dalton, Sea Grant
Dale Beasley, Commercial Fishing	Randy Kline, WA State Parks
David Fluharty, Educational Institution	Ray Toste, Commercial Fishing
Doug Kess, Pacific MRC	RD Grunbaum, Conservation
Garrett Dalan, Grays Harbor MRC	Rich Osborne, Science
Jeff Ward, Coastal Energy	Rod Fleck, N. Pacific MRC
Marc Horton, Ports	Steve Sewall, Dept. of Commerce
Mark Plackett, Citizen	RD Grunbaum, Conservation
Mark Cedergreen, Recreational Fishing	

Liaisons Present	
Katie Krueger, Quileute Tribe	Chad Bowechop, Makah Tribe

Council Members Absent	
Charles Costanzo, Shipping	Ray Toste, Commercial Fishing
JT Austin, Governor's Office	Sally Toteff, Dept. of Ecology
Linda Rotmark, Economic Development	

Others Present	
Al Carter, Ocean Gold	Kelly Andrews, NOAA/NWFSC
Brad Warren, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership	Kelsey Gianou, Ecology
Doug Fricke, Coalition of Coastal Fisheries	Key McMurry, PCMRC
Ed Waters, Consultant	Kevin Decker, SeaGrant
George Hart	Melissa Powe, WSG
Jan Israel, IEC	Mike Nordin, PCD and GHCD
Janet Baker, Cascade Economics	Mindy Sheer, NOAA
Jen Kassakian, IEC	Paul Sorensen, BST Associates
Sue Wolf, Four Corners Env. Planning	Libby Whiting, DNR
Joe Schumacker, Quinalt Indian Nation	Tom Echols, Coalition of Coastal Fisheries
Jennifer Hennessey, Ecology (WCMAC Staff)	Katrina Lassiter, DNR
Dana Golden, Cascadia Consulting, Note-taker	Susan Gulick, Sound Resolutions, Facilitator
Katie Wrukel, TNC	

1. Welcome and Agenda Review

Garrett Dalan welcomed everyone to the meeting. All Council Members and attendees introduced themselves. Garrett reviewed the agenda for the day and noted a change to the meeting structure- there will be two public comment periods.

- Dale Beasley requested to add a few minutes on the agenda to introduce the concept of fishing reserves to the Council.
- ! **The WCMAC approved the summary of the April 23rd meeting with the changes distributed in the meeting packet. There were no objections.**

2. Sector Analysis Reports

Jen Hennessy presented the context of the sector analysis reports. The purpose of the reports was to provide contextual information on five major sectors: shipping, fisheries, aquaculture, marine renewable energy, and recreation and tourism. These sector reports will provide a basis for scoping subsequent work on the coast wide economic analysis. The draft reports were submitted on June 30th. The consultants (Paul Sorensen of BST Associates, and Jane Israel and Jennifer Kassakian of Industrial Economics Incorporated (IEc)) presented on the sectors that they studied. Presentations are attached as separate documents.

Comments and Questions

- Doug Kess: Distant water fisheries need to be accounted for.
- Mark Cedergreen: What is the difference between commercial and recreational fishing reports?
 - There isn't a lot of information on recreational fishing, there would need to be a new primary study to get that information and determine who recreates primarily for fishing reasons.
- Why are there fewer overall shipping vessels, but increased total volume and economic value?
 - The shipping vessels have increased in size, but there are fewer vessels.
- Brain Sheldon: I'm concerned that the dollar comparisons aren't similar. We need a summary of all of these sector reports together with apples-to-apples comparisons.
- Ray Toste: I'm concerned that there were some informational sources that were overlooked or missed in the commercial fishing sector report.
 - The consultants were given a list of experts. By necessity, they had to limit to six interviews, some of which were group interviews. The report does reflect more on the harvesting side than the processing side. Processing is a gap that should be filled in the final economic analysis.
- Rod Fleck: I think that the legal information on pg. 6 and pg. 49 about the Boldt and Rafeedie decisions is incorrect. You should also work on the language that talks about "modern commercial fishing" and provide a reference point for what years you mean by that.
- Chad: In our vessel traffic risk assessment we created a model that everyone could agree to. A trusted model is needed to develop trusted results.
- RD: Why was tribal fishing not included in the fishing study? Quinalt is one the largest employer in Gray's Harbor.
 - It was not part of this RFP, but will be included in the overall economic analysis report.
- Katie: The consultants did a good job of defining the treaty area. The treaty rights are in litigation right now, so it's better to not put them in a map.
- Michele Culver: If anyone has specific questions about the legal decisions, look at the references cited in the report. We will do an additional review of the legal language, and written comments will

be helpful in clarifying that. The sector analyses had limited time and resources, and were meant to give a snap shot to build from.

Next Steps: Written comments are due to the consultants by July 15th. DNR staff will pull together a compilation of the data gaps and put them into one document. The economic analysis will build on the sector analyses. The consultant will be selected at the end of August. Applicants are supplying a “menu” of options that can be tailored based on the results of the sector analyses and the scoping process. During the scoping process the consultant will meet with the Technical Committee, and potentially the entire Council.

3. WCMAC Operating Procedure for Formal Recommendations

No comments were received in the past 3 months about the Operating Procedures. Requests for recommendations will go through the process outlined in the document.

- Under A, 1, a, “WCMAC is an advisory body to the Governor” should be deleted because it is repetitive with the previous sentence.
- Add C, 3 that restates the line from the RCW about WCMAC’s role.
- ! **The Operating Procedure for Formal WCMAC recommendations was approved as amended.**

4. Public Comment

- Key McMurry: Were razor clams included in the recreational use study? Why not talk to more than 6 people for the interviews? You need to include processing in the commercial fishing sector because it has a huge economic impact.
- Dale Beasley: I would like to submit two letters to the meeting summary. They were sent on July 4th and July 9th.
- Doug Fricke: The goal of this economic report is to clearly identify the economic activity and jobs that are marine dependent. You need to keep in mind what would displace the current marine dependent jobs. Going forward, you need to include the value created by getting fish all the way to the plate. In West Port, albacore and shrimp are a big portion of the value in addition to crab. Recreational fisheries are very important, as are other marine related industries such as commercial boat building, pontoons, and boat maintenance. We need a product that fully identifies everything. Don’t put out a partial report because it will be used against us.

5. Integrated Ecosystem Assessments and indicators: Update on ecological and social indicator development for Washington State

Integrated Ecosystem Assessment

- Kelley Andrews from NOAA presented on the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA) for Washington State.
- IEAs draw on both the natural and human dimension sciences to develop indicators, assess the ecosystem, create a risk assessment, and ultimately evaluate management strategies.

Social Indicator Development

- Melissa Poe of Northwest Fisheries Science Center and Washington Sea Grant presented on the development of social indicators. The indicators will be developed using a variety of sources reflecting the goals and voices of the Washington Coast.

Comments and Questions:

- RD: Military influence is an important thing to consider for the IEA.
 - While it may be a good indicator, the data on military influence is hard to access.
- Brian Sheldon: “Human pressures” sounds too negative. There needs to be an appreciation for human uses. How will you create a baseline of where to measure from?
 - Creating a baseline is a big challenge. Targets will be identified as part of the process.
- Jeff Ward: How does the IEA model quantify uncertainty?
 - It’s an integrative analysis looking at status and trends. More can be discussed after the meeting. We look at variation in status and trends – it is an integrative analysis.
- Doug Kess: When you rank the indicators, you need to account for biases between different groups.
 - Process is set up in a transparent way to avoid that.
- Dale: Fatality rates and the impacts of fatalities should be included in the assessment. This is influenced by reduced fishing grounds. The assessment should be put in terms that the public can understand.
- Rod: Human and social well-being should be in the first tier of concerns and have a heavier weight.
 - Those types of measures are included in the community vulnerability index and are very important.
- Does NOAA use this technique internally?
 - IEA is NOAA’s national process for ecosystem based management. It sets up a consistent framework for looking at tradeoffs and understanding interactions.
- Mark Plackett: When you find data gaps in the process of creating indicators, you should let the WCMAC know. It might fit into other things we are going to be doing.

6. Updates

- Work Plan – there is a recommendation that this be a living document. It doesn’t need to be approved, but can be updated as needed.
- Technical committee update –
 - There is a survey asking WCMAC members to identify their information needs about renewable energy.
 - The coast wide economic assessment RFP is out. The Technical Committee and possibly entire Council will be involved in the scoping process.
- MRAC – Garrett noted that at this meeting it was clear that funding is tight. WCMAC funding requests need to be well supported.
- MSP project status report – Katrina Lassiter provided an update on the project statuses.
- Sharepoint Site – It takes a few steps to get secure access. The site is open to all WCMAC members to share documents. Contact Jennifer Hennessy with problems in accessing the site.

Comments and Questions:

- Dale: How much of the biennium budget is currently used or spoken for?
 - There are several things, like the economic analysis that will be a large cost but have not yet been spent. There is enough money to pay for the upper estimate of the economic analysis.
- Brian: How much money has gone to the data viewer?
 - DNR has invested its own staff time, IT, infrastructure investment so it is difficult to show the total cost to the MSP.

7. Request to appoint Rick Lovely as a liaison

- The Council received a response from the Governor's office regarding the request to appoint Rick Lovely as a liaison. The Governor's office found that Rick Lovely did not meet the requirements of a liaison.
- Rick Lovely's expertise should be requested in the technical committee's upcoming meeting about renewable energy.

Comments and Questions:

- Brian: I remember a lot of discussion about what the word "others" meant. I wanted to make sure that no one was excluded.
- The problem is that Rick Lovely does not meet the "with responsibility" requirement.

The Council agreed that the issue of liaison requirements could be discussed further, but everyone was in favor of inviting Rick Lovely's participation in the topic about energy requirements.

8. MSP Funding Recommendation

Michael Rechner noted that there will be a lot of money sought for ocean acidification and other efforts in the Governor's budget. The priority is likely to be given to CO2 emissions. In addition, all state agencies are required to perform a 15% reduction exercise. The WCMAC must create funding recommendations that are supportable, necessary, and logical. WCMAC recommendations need to be completed by September 19th.

The staff recommendations for funding requests were:

1. Recommend funding the continued operation of the WCMAC.
2. Recommend funding the completion of the Marine Spatial Plan.

Comments and Questions:

- Michele: The WCMAC meetings should be increased to 6-8 meetings.
 - Several other Council members supported this idea.
- Michael: We need to think about what data gaps absolutely must be filled in order to complete the MSP. There is no way that all data will be completed. The MSP may call out data gaps that need to be filled in the future.
- Marc Horton: Why aren't we talking more about new uses? Is there a mechanism attached to the plan?
 - The plan is non-regulatory, but the MSP will provide recommendations on where potential new uses should or shouldn't happen. The plan will be incorporated into the coastal zone management act.
- Mark Plackett: We should be thinking about putting together information for policy makers to make decisions.
- What are the amounts for continued WCMAC operation and completion of the MSP?

- An initial estimate is about \$750,000-\$1,000,000 for both WCMAC operations and MSP.
- The WCMAC agreed to hold an additional WCMAC meeting in August or September. WCMAC members should be prepared to think about what is absolutely necessary to complete the MSP and to provide recommendations about where new uses should or should not occur, keeping in mind state budget limitations.

9. MSP Draft Actions List

- The initial MSP Draft Actions list was created in January. Comments were incorporated, and at the April meeting it was decided that notes from the TNC's meetings with the MRCs should be incorporated. After that, further feedback was requested by email in June. There were no additional WCMAC comments. More detailed comments that could be useful for specific projects or indicators will be kept on record.

Comments and Questions:

- Rich Osborne: I'm glad that all of the information will be utilized by the social sciences indicators. It means we haven't lost work that has been done.
- Dale: What will be the connection to federal agencies in the plan?
 - Jennifer Hennessy: We have been reaching out to federal agencies. We will continue to seek feedback from federal agencies as we develop the plan.

Garrett asked for any public comment on the MSP Draft Actions list. There were no public comments.

! The MSP Draft Actions list was adopted unanimously.

10. Public Comment

- Mike Nordin: The economic analysis needs to account for multipliers. For example, the recreational activities wouldn't be able to exist without the commercial activities. It doesn't make sense to rush the MSP process; I encourage you to take the necessary time to get a good product. I also disagree with the comment that you need to do what the Governor's Office says; it's the responsibility of the Council to represent the interests of the coast. There should be representatives from the Department of Agriculture and the Conservation Commission on this Council.
- Key McMurry: Thank you for adding time to this meeting. They could still be longer, and I support the request for more meetings. There are several overlaps between the MRAC and the WCMAC groups. For example, MRAC wanted to form a website, but they could just use the WCMAC website. In addition, the groups should strategically ask for money from the governor's budget instead of asking for the same thing twice.
- Rich: We won't have time to fill every data gap, and I'm worried that will come up at the budget meeting. I think the Technical Committee needs to discuss this at its next meeting.
- Brian: I would like staff to put together a summary of sector analyses data gaps.

11. Facilitation Services

Facilitation services are not contracted beyond September. The contract will be amended to include an additional budget meeting. Katrina asked the Council if they would like to extend the facilitation contract.

Comments and Questions:

- Brian: We should be careful about losing progress and knowledge when a facilitator walks out the door. We could consider a more established long term group such as the Conservation Commission or Sea Grant to facilitate the Council.
- Rod: We should renew the contract and amend the contract to include the budget meeting.
- Marc: The contractor is doing a great job, and we need her to move forward.
- ! **WCMAC recommends DNR extend the contract for facilitation services through the end of the biennium and amend it to include potential additional meetings.**

12. Upcoming Meetings and Additional Announcements

- Garrett requested that everyone be responsive about scheduling and attending the additional budget meeting
- Michele requested that the Steering Committee look at one or two potential additional meeting dates for the fall.
- Dale proposed a future agenda item discussion about recommending the establishment of fishing preserves that would protect the best fishing areas.
- Comments for sector analysis are due by July 15th and should be sent directly to the contractors.
- All WCMAC members should complete the energy survey distributed on the list serve.
- WCMAC members should fill out the recreational use study. The link will be re-distributed to the group.
- There will be a July 30th Communications Workshop at Grays Harbor College. Casey will add information to the Sharepoint site.
- The next WCMAC meeting will be focused on developing a financing recommendation for the next biennium. The details are to be determined.