

WASHINGTON COASTAL MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Funding Meeting Draft Summary

Thursday, September 18, 2014 10:00 am – 12:00pm

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	Miles Batchelder, WA Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership
Casey Dennehy, Recreation	Penny Dalton, Sea Grant
Dale Beasley, Commercial Fishing	Ray Toste, Commercial Fishing (via phone)
David Fluharty, Educational Institution	RD Grunbaum, Conservation
Doug Kess, Pacific MRC	Rich Osborne, Science
Garrett Dalan, Grays Harbor MRC	Rod Fleck, N. Pacific MRC
Mark Cedergreen, Recreational Fishing	Sally Toteff, Dept. of Ecology
Marc Horton, Ports	Steve Sewall, Dept. of Commerce
Mark Plackett, Citizen	

Liasions Present	
None	

Council Members Absent	
Alla Weinstein, Energy Industry	Linda Rotmark, Economic Development
Carol Ervest, Whakiakum MRC	Michele Culver, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Charles Costanzo, Shipping	Randy Kline, WA State Parks
Jeff Ward, Coastal Energy	Sally Toteff, Dept. of Ecology
JT Austin, Governor's Office	

Others Present	
Bridgit Trosin, WA Sea Grant	Larry Thevik, WDCFA
George Hart, Devy NW	Libby Whiting, DNR
Gus Gates, Surfrider Foundation	Michael Taylor, Cascade Economics LLC
Jennifer Hennessey, Ecology (WCMAC Staff)	Mike Cassinelli, Mayor of Ilwaco
Kara Cardinal, Nature Conservancy	Susan Gulick, Sound Resolutions, Facilitator
Katrina Lassiter, DNR	Dana Golden, Cascadia Consulting, Note-taker
Kelsey Gianou, Ecology	

1. Welcome and Introductions, Agenda Review

Garrett Dalan welcomed everyone to the meeting. All Council Members and attendees introduced themselves. Garrett reviewed the agenda for the day. The purpose of the meeting is to create a formal recommendation for the funding request for the 2015-17 Biennial Budget. Garrett announced that after the meeting, there would be a presentation on renewable energy technologies.

2. MSP Funding Recommendation

Michal Rechner provided an overview of the state budget process and important considerations for the WCMAC as they put together their budget request.

WCMAC has been funded by the Marine Resource Stewardship Trust Account in the past. It does not have a dedicated funding source. The funding from the last biennium came from the DNR Resource Management Cost Account. Staff estimate that there will be \$800,000 left over in the account at the end of the biennium. Any fund balance as of June 30, 2015 will be left in the account and available for re-appropriation.

Mike noted that this year the OFM gave instructions for each agency to develop a 15% budget reduction plan, and the McCleary decision on education means that the state budget will be very tight.

Questions and Comments

- Mark Plackett: Are there other competing organizations that are funded from the marine resource trust account?
 - Yes, the MSP and MRAC (ocean acidification) are funded from the account.
- Doug Kess: Is it worth approaching coastal legislators about securing funding?
 - First we should work on the recommendation, and then we can talk about ways to promote it.

Jennifer Hennessy reviewed the staff and Technical Committee recommendations. The funding priorities are to continue WCMAC operations and complete the MSP. At the July WCMAC meeting, it was decided that the Technical Committee would discuss data gaps that need to be filled. The Technical Committee highlighted two data gaps that need to be filled for the completion of the MSP. Those two gaps are phase 2 of the economic analysis, and a view shed analysis.

The recommended total request is for \$800,000. This includes 6 all day WCMAC meetings, and the completion of the MSP. The recommendation was developed before the estimate of remaining funding. It was a coincidence that the two numbers ended up the same.

Garrett Dalan requested that revisions to the budget recommendation should be made using the 3rd page of the discussion guide. The letter will then be updated to reflect changes made in the discussion guide.

Questions and Comments

Dale Beasley: I don't see any budget set aside to improve the mapping tool. There are several fisheries that are missing from the mapping tool and the data needs to be added from fishery log books. If they aren't on the map, they won't be protected.

- Rod Fleck: Are the log books kept by commercial fishermen? Are they available public records?
- There is some DFW data that is unavailable for the data mapper, but all data will be used in the analysis of critically important areas, even if that data cannot be shared.
- Mark Plackett: Would additional money help to get these fisheries data, or is it an issue of access?
- Garret Dalan: We have eight more months of funded mapping tool development. Updating the tool will be a continual process. We should work between now and then to fill data gaps.

Susan Gulick: It sounds like people want to improve the data. Is it a budget issue, or is it a policy issue? What changes do we need to make to the budget proposal?

- Dale Beasley: I would like to get a written explanation from Michelle about why the log book data is not available.
- Garret Dalan could send a request to WDFW for a written status of the data for specific species.
- Michal Rechner: We are not trying to exclude any data. We are trying as hard as we can to get the data.
- Doug Kess: the mapping tool needs to have funding to evolve kept up-to-date.

Penny Dalton: The Science Panel had their first meeting yesterday. Will unspent money for the Science Panel carry over?

- Katrina Lassiter: The money for the Science Panel is included in the budget request under "outreach."
- Michal Rechner: Unspent money leftover after June of 2015 will not be available, it would have to be re-appropriated.

Recommended Amendments to Proposed Funding Recommendation:

- Garret Dalan: b,i should be changed to: "incorporate the MSP project information updates and data limitations into the draft plan and mapping tool". We should also specifically call out "scientific review" in the budget request under b, iii to make it clear that the Science Panel work is included in the amount.
- Mark Plackett: I think there needs to be more money to complete the MSP. We should add \$125,000 to b, for a total of \$925,000.
 - Michal Rechner: I think the request needs to be as streamlined as possible. We shouldn't make an addition.
 - Rich Osborne: I think that the fund balance in the account will likely be more than \$800,000.

The proposed amended funding recommendation with changes is below. Before voting, the WCMAC took public comments.

Amended Funding Recommendation

1. The WCMAC recommends that the Governor include \$925,000 in the proposed 2016-17 biennial budget to fund the following activities:
 - a. The continued operation of the Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council (\$225,000).
 - b. The completion of the Marine Spatial Plan: (\$700,000)
 - i. Incorporate MSP project information updates and data limitations into the draft plan and mapping tool.
 - ii. Complete projects underway before June 2015, but which may require additional analysis or work.
 - iii. Conduct additional outreach, public engagement, and scientific review in the planning and mapping process
 - iv. Coordinate and consult on the plan with governments.
 - v. Revise and finalize the plan, including research and writing.

2. WCMAC recommends that the Chair of the WCMAC transmit the WCMAC recommendation to the Governor and the chairs of the legislative finance committees via letter, including the required budget form. Staff will prepare the budget form to meet the Office of Financial Management's requirements. The Steering Committee will review the budget form prior to final submittal to ensure it matches WCMAC's recommendation.

Public comment

- Mike Cassinelli: I sit on the ocean acidification committee, and I agree with Mike. Funding is very tight, and the priority will likely be given to the ocean acidification projects.
- Larry Thevik: The missing data is not difficult to acquire. The state and tribes are co-managers, so it's a matter of public record. The log books have only been doing specific data for a few years, so the record is fairly small though the history of the fisheries is decades long. I submitted comments on the sector analysis in July, but I will repeat them here. The economic analysis has questionable value without the inclusion of tribal fisheries. In the case of crab and other species, tribal harvest needs to be included to give a complete picture. In addition, multipliers should be included in the calculations. In addition, the newly planned movement of oil through our coastal estuaries could have a devastating impact. The Marine Spatial Plan cannot be complete without discussion of this impact.

The WCMAC voted to approve the amended funding recommendation, included above. The WCMAC did not reach consensus on their recommendation. There were 12 votes in support, 3 votes not in support, 1 abstention, and 8 members absent. The official voting record is attached at the end of this summary.

Next Steps and Upcoming Meetings

After this meeting, there will be an information session on alternative energy. It is not an official WCMAC meeting.

Jennifer Hennessy reviewed the current October agenda items.

- Update on economic analysis scoping process
- Update from the science panel on the work that they are doing
- Use analysis process
- Open government training

The WCMAC recommended the following additional items for agenda topics:

- Report on the data mapping tool.
- An update on how to pursue the missing fishing data and sea level rise data.

Upcoming WCMAC Meetings

- October 22, 2014 (Port of Grays Harbor College)
- January 7, 2015 (Port of Grays Harbor)
- February 25, 2015 (Port of Grays Harbor)
- April 22, 2015 (Port of Grays Harbor)
- June 24, 2015 (Port of Grays Harbor)

Meetings will be held in Aberdeen unless otherwise noted.

WCMAC Record of Voting

Action: Approve amended funding recommendation

Date: September 18, 2014

Seat	Name	In Favor	Don't support	Absent	Abstain
Gov's Office	JT Austin			X	
14 - WCSSP	Miles Batchelder		X		
2 - Commercial fishing	Dale Beasley	X			
10 - Recreational fishing	Mark Cedergreen	X			
12 - Shipping	Charlie Costanzo			X	
DFW	Michele Culver			X	
Grays Harbor MRC	Garrett Dalan	X			
Sea Grant	Penny Dalton	X			
9 - Recreation	Casey Dennehy	X			
Wahkiakum MRC	Carol Ervest			X	
N. Pacific MRC	Rod Fleck	X			
6 - Educational institution	Dave Fluharty	X			
4 - Conservation	RD Grunbaum	X			
15 - Ports	Marc Horton			X	
Pacific MRC	Doug Kess	X			
State Parks	Randy Kline				
13 - Science	Rich Osborne	X			
1 - Citizen	Mark Plackett	X			
DNR	Michal Rechner		X		
5 - Economic Development	Linda Rotmark			X	
Commerce	Steve Sewell				
11 - Shellfish Aquaculture	Brian Sheldon	X			
3- Commercial fishing	Ray Toste				X
Ecology	Sally Toteff		X		
7 - Coastal Energy	Jeff Ward			X	
8 - Energy industry or org.	Alla Weinstein			X	
	Total	12	3	8	1