

# WASHINGTON COASTAL MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

December 6, 2023

Part 1 from 9:30am – 12:00pm

Part 2 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84374069787>

Meeting ID: 843 7406 9787

Passcode: 120623

[Streaming and recording link](#)

[Link to Materials](#)

[Public Comment Sign-up](#)

## December 6, 2023 Agenda

Time	Agenda Item and Description	Objective	Presenter(s)
9:30* (30 min)	<b>Welcome and Introductions, Agenda Review</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acknowledge recording of WCMAC meeting</li> <li>Welcome from Chair</li> <li>Review agenda</li> <li>Welcome and roll call introductions</li> <li>Meeting ground rules</li> <li>Encourage public comments via chat</li> <li>Adopt summary of September meeting minutes</li> </ul>	<b>Information, Action</b> <i>Reference Materials:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sept. 2023 Agenda</li> <li>Draft September 2023 Meeting Summary (Appendix A)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rod Fleck, Chair</li> <li>Mike Chang, Facilitator</li> </ul>
10:00* (15 min)	<b>WCMAC Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membership updates</li> <li>Announcements                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work plan and <a href="#">topic elevation</a></li> <li>2024 Satellite WCMAC meetings</li> </ul> </li> <li>Public Comment Protocol</li> </ul>	<b>Information, Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carrie Sessions, Governor's Office</li> <li>Mike Chang, Facilitator</li> </ul>
10:15* (20 min)	<b>WCMAC 2024 Chair &amp; Vice-chair Elections</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nominee announcements</li> <li>Confirmation or vote</li> </ul>	<b>Action</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mike Chang, Facilitator</li> </ul>
10:35* (45 min)	<b>Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governor's Office Updates</li> <li>MRC Updates</li> <li>Agency Updates</li> </ul>	<b>Information, Discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical Committee Meeting Summaries (Appendix B)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mike Chang, Facilitator</li> <li>Nicole Gutierrez, Facilitator</li> <li>Carrie Sessions, Governor's Office</li> <li>Other State Agency representatives</li> </ul>

Time	Agenda Item and Description	Objective	Presenter(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Coastal Updates</li> <li>Technical Committee Updates</li> <li>MRAC Update</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical Committee Co-leads</li> <li>WCMAC members</li> </ul>
11:20* (25 min)	<b>Willapa-Grays Harbor Estuary Collaborative &amp; IPM Workgroup Updates</b>	<b>Information, Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nicole Naar, WA Sea Grant</li> <li>Rich Doenges, Ecology</li> </ul>
11:45* (15 min)	<b>Public Comment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Link</a> to sign up for public comment.</li> <li>Encourage commenters to limit their comments to no more than 3-minutes to allow for all public comments to be received.</li> </ul>	<b>Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public/Observers</li> <li>Mike Chang, Facilitator</li> <li>Nicole Gutierrez, Facilitator</li> </ul>
12:00*	<b>1-hour break</b> Reconvene at 1:00 pm using the same Zoom link		
1:00* (40 min)	<b>WA's Clean Energy Future</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">2021 State Energy Strategy</a></li> <li><a href="#">Net-Zero Northwest</a> study: energy modeling context</li> </ul>	<b>Information, Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nora Hawkins, WA Department of Commerce</li> <li>Jeremy Hargreaves, Evolved Energy</li> </ul>
1:40* (20 min)	<b>Update: CZM Habitat Protection and Restoration Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Competition Department of Commerce</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letters of support</li> </ul>	<b>Information, Action</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Meeting Presentations (Appendix C)</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olivia Zimmerman, Ecology</li> </ul>
2:00* (20 min)	<b>Trident Winds OSW Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study results "Value of OSW to WA State"</li> </ul>	<b>Information, Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alla Weinstein, Founder &amp; CEO, Trident Winds</li> </ul>
2:20* (30 min)	<b>WCMAC Year in Review &amp; 2024 Work Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2023 WCMAC Accomplishments</li> <li>2024 – 2025 work plan visioning</li> </ul>	<b>Discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>WCMAC Year in Review &amp; 2024 Work Planning (Discussion Guide)</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nicole Gutierrez, Facilitator</li> <li>Alle Brown-Law, Facilitator</li> </ul>
2:45* (15 min)	<b>Public Comment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Link</a> to sign up for public comment.</li> <li>Encourage commenters to limit their comments to no more than 3-minutes to allow for all public comments to be received.</li> </ul>	<b>Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public/Observers</li> <li>Mike Chang, Facilitator</li> <li>Nicole Gutierrez, Facilitator</li> </ul>
3:00*	<b>Adjourn and Next Steps</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mike Chang, Facilitator</li> </ul>

## Meeting Ground Rules

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### 1. Be Respectful

- Listen when others are speaking. Do not interrupt and do not participate in side conversations. One person speaks at a time.
- Recognize the legitimacy of the concerns and interests of others, whether or not you agree with them.
- Cooperate with the facilitator to ensure that everyone is given equitable time to state their views. Present your views succinctly and try not to repeat or rephrase what others have already said.
- Silence cell phones and refrain from using laptops during the meeting, except to take notes.

### 2. Be Constructive

- Participate in the spirit of giving the same priority to solving the problems of others as you do to solving your own problems.
- Share comments that are solution focused. Avoid repeating past discussions.
- Do not engage in personal attacks or make slanderous statements. Do not give ultimatums.
- Ask for clarification if you are uncertain of what another person is saying. Ask questions rather than make assumptions.
- Work towards consensus. Identify areas of common ground and be willing to compromise.
- Minimize the use of jargon and acronyms. Attempt to use language observers and laypersons will understand.

### 3. Be Productive

- Arrive on time and stay until the meeting is adjourned.
- Adhere to the agenda. Respect time constraints and focus on the topic being discussed.
- Volunteer for tasks between meetings.

### 4. Bring a Sense of Humor and Have Fun.

## WCMAC Discussion Guide

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### WCMAC Year in Review & 2024 Work Planning

**Goal:** Review [2023 Workplan](#), provide feedback on the 2023 WCMAC Accomplishment draft, and discuss WCMAC goals and objectives for 2024.

#### Discussion Questions for Work Plan Visioning

1. Where have you seen WCMAC be most successful related to agenda items/work plan goals?
2. Is there anything you would like to see WCMAC focus more (or less) on in the coming year?
3. What 2023 work plan goals and objectives should be continued in 2024?
4. What are some additional work plan goals and objectives you would like to see in 2024?



## Appendix A. September 2023 Meeting Summary

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Please see meeting summary on next page.

# Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council Meeting

## Draft Summary

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Part 1 from 9:00am – 11:45am

Part 2 from 12:45pm – 3:00pm

**Meeting materials and presentations can be found on the WCMAC website:**

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/ocean/advisorycouncil.html>

**Meeting recording can be viewed here:** <https://twv.org/video/washington-coastal-marine-advisory-council-2023091043/?eventID=2023091043>

### Highlights

- Two new WCMAC members were introduced, welcome Peter Steelquist and Matt Niles!
- Opportunities for WCMAC members whose terms are expiring to reapply were announced.
- Garrett Dalan reminded everyone that the MRC Summit is on October 11-13, 2023, in Westport.
- Key updates on offshore wind energy, carbon dioxide removal, and federal funding opportunities for coastal resilience activities were discussed.

### Summary of Decisions

- June 2023 WCMAC Meeting Summary was passed.
- No other decisions were made during this meeting.

### Upcoming Meetings

- Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (hybrid virtual meeting)

### WCMAC Members Present

Beasley, Dale – Commercial fishing	Thevik, Larry – Commercial fishing
Conrad, Michele – Economic development	Meinig, Christian – Coastal energy
Steelquist, Peter – Coastal recreation	Cassinelli, Michael – Recreational fishing
Sheldon, Brian – Shellfish aquaculture	Zimmerman, Mara – Washington Coastal Sustainable Salmon Partnership
Lewis, Randy – Coastal port	Dalan, Garrett – Grays Harbor MRC
Fleck, William Rodney – North Pacific MRC	Nordin, Michael – Pacific MRC

Culbertson, Paula – Wahkiakum MRC	Doenges, Richard – Department of Ecology
Sessions, Carrie – Governor’s Office	Rechner, Michael – Department of Natural Resources
Niles, Matt – Washington State Parks	Dolsak, Nives – Educational institution

### Council Members Absent

Grunbaum, Arthur – Coastal conservation	Niles, Corey – Department of Fish & Wildlife
Polagye, Brian – Energy organization	Costanzo, Charles – Coastal shipping industry

### Others Present (as noted on the Zoom log-in)

Skelton, Ann – Pacific County MRC	Blake, Brian – Ocean Gold Seafood
Blalock, Jackson – Pacific Conservation District	Hall, Heather – WDFW
Krienitz, Jay – Ecology	Schumacker, Joe – Quinault Indian Nation
Nevitt, Kristine – Interested Citizen	Aoki, Mai – Ecology
Mann, Heather – Midwater Trawlers Association	Bowman, Stephanie – Commerce
Wright, Teri – Wild Orca	Zimmerman, Olivia – Ecology
Cross, Jessica – PNNL	Gomez, Carlos – BOEM
Miller, Jennifer – BOEM	Weiler, Colleen
Hopkins, Paige – Brightline	Garrow, Katie
Felleman, Fred – Port of Seattle	Krebs, Amy
Vander Stoep, Andrew	Talebi, Bobbak – Ecology
Rolf, Jenna – Makah Tribe	Reid, Christine – IBEW77
Mitrosky, Micah	Lowell, Natalie – Makah Tribe
Humphries, Natalie – Monterey Bay Aquarium	Unknown Participant
Ross, Tyler	Chang, Mike – Cascadia Consulting Group

Gutierrez, Nicole – Cascadia Consulting Group	Brown-Law, Alle – Cascadia Consulting Group
Hart, Nick – Environmental Science Associates	

## Welcome and Introductions

- Rod Fleck, WCMAC Chair, opened the meeting and shared that the agenda was full for this meeting and that there would be two public comment periods. Rod reflected that every time the WCMAC meets, the group tries to learn and refine the meeting processes to make things as easy as possible for members and public attendees.
- Roll call was taken.
- Mike Nordin asked a procedural question as to how motions can be made in the WCMAC and how that differs from other groups. He was under the impression that the process is more in depth in this group and asked for it to be explained.
  - Rod F. noted that the procedure is laid out in the WCMAC bylaws and committed to sending the bylaws to Mike Nordin as soon as possible.
- Dale Beasley noted that there were no changes to the agenda today, and that the group should have meeting materials developed at least a week in advance.
  - Mike C. responded that the materials for this meeting were developed two weeks in advance and committed to working with Dale to ensure he receives them beforehand for future meetings.
- Mike N. asked for clarification on the allowability of alternates. He understood that alternates are not allowed for WCMAC members, and if not, Pacific Marine Resources Committee would like to nominate alternates.
  - Mike C. clarified that Heather Hall (WDFW) was not attending as an alternate for Corey Niles as a WCMAC member but would be presenting WDFW updates in his absence. Alternates for WCMAC members are not allowed.
- Mike N. asked if the quorum was still met given Corey Niles' absence.
  - Mike C. stated that the quorum had been met.

## June Meeting Summary Review

- Mike C. asked if any WCMAC members had revisions for the June meeting summary.
  - Rod Fleck noted that there were none and asked for a motion to pass the June meeting summary.
- Mike Cassinelli made a motion to pass the June meeting summary as presented. The motion was seconded by Randy Lewis. The meeting summary was approved via consensus.

## WCMAC Updates

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### Membership Updates

- Mike Chang welcomed the two new WCMAC members and invited them to introduce themselves.
  - Peter Steelquist, the new representative for Coastal Recreation, replacing Gus Gates, introduced himself as the new Washington Policy Manager for the Surfrider Foundation. A lifelong Washingtonian, he lives in Port Angeles and loves to recreate and spend time on Washington's outer coast.
  - Matt Niles introduced himself as the new Seashore Area Manager for State Parks. This is a new position with State Parks for him, previously he was the Southwest Region Area Manager which included all the parks on the outer coast. This new role will allow him to focus on Seashore Conservation Areas moving forward.

### Announcements

- **2024 Chair and Vice Chair Nominations:** Mike Chang provided an overview of the annual elections process for the WCMAC Chair and Vice Chair. Following this meeting, the facilitation team will distribute a nomination form to the listserv. WCMAC members can use that form to nominate candidates, including themselves, over the month following distribution of the form. The vote for Chair and Vice Chair will take place at the December WCMAC Meeting.
- **Work Plan and Topic Evaluation:** Mike Chang reminded WCMAC members of the Topic Elevation Form ([link](#)), where WCMAC members can submit topics to be elevated and discussed by the whole of the WCMAC. This form is important to shape the WCMAC workplan and agendas for 2024.
- **Annual WCMAC Accomplishments:** Mike Chang shared that as the end of 2023 is approaching, the facilitation team will be preparing another one-page summary of WCMAC accomplishments from the past year.

### Public Comment Protocol

- Mike Chang shared a change to the protocol for public comments. There will now be a public comment signup sheet for virtual meetings to align the process for virtual meetings with the one used for in-person meetings. Public comments are encouraged to be three minutes.

## Updates

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### Governor's Office Update

- Carrie Sessions welcomed Matt [Niles] and Peter [Steelquist] to WCMAC, shared that she is looking forward to their contributions to the WCMAC, and thanked them for bringing their experience to the Council.



- Carrie Sessions shared that there are several open seats on the WCMAC as well as several seats where the current members' term has expired. Open seats include the seat for Citizens, the seat for Science, and the seat for Ocean Shipping. The Governor's Office will be recruiting for these seats this fall and is open to recommendations and nominations. Carrie stated that if members with expiring terms wish to continue serving, they should reapply for their seats at that time. Applications will be due October 15, 2023, and members with expiring terms will be contacted by the Governor's Office to clarify the process.
  - Larry Thevik thanked Carrie for the information and mentioned that there had been previous discussion of potential seat changes with term expirations. Larry shared that there is no statutory limitation on the number of terms a WCMAC member can serve and appreciates the opportunity for long-term members to reapply as he feels their historical knowledge is valuable to this body.

## MRC Updates

- Paula Culbertson shared that they are awaiting dispensation of WDFW grants. They understand that there were approximately 300 grants pending review as of August and that there are few people available to review those applications. They are hoping for speedy answers on their applications to meet funding needs for ongoing work. Their activity has otherwise been quiet, reviewing community needs and grants in Wahkiakum County.
- Mike Nordin shared that they are updating their bylaws and reviewing projects to support in the new year. They are looking forward to the coastal meeting of the Marine Resource Committees. Mike reported that they are working with the ecosystem-based management program on burrowing shrimp and green crab which remain huge issues on the coast.
- Garrett Dalan reminded everyone that the MRC Summit is one month away on October 11-13, 2023, in Westport. On the 11<sup>th</sup>, they will be presenting on coastal hazards, including opportunities for site visits. On Thursday (10/12), they will be focusing on fisheries, economy, and community-level impacts. Friday (10/13) will be focused on green crab. He invited folks to reach out about participating, noting that there are opportunities to join each day, though opportunities are limited for Friday given the limited number of spots available on boats. Garrett shared that their MRC meeting was only about 16 hours prior to this one, and that they are advancing a first round of projects through their process to start doing project runs.
- Rod Fleck reported that they are in the process of scoring grant responses from solicitations they received. There are a variety of applications ranging from funding requests for a crab larvae survey to supporting ROV efforts at the local school system. Rod shared that it is a fun and exciting process to see the solicitations come in. They will be meeting next week to continue that work.
  - Rod also plugged a small maritime event being hosted by NOAA on October 14<sup>th</sup> in the morning and early afternoon. The event will cover work done in the summer and fall on work in the sanctuary. Members were invited to attend.

## Agency Updates

- Mike Rechner reported no updates from the Department of Natural Resources.
- Rich Doenges reported that Casey Dennehy is on parental leave and is now a proud father! Jay Krienitz is now the Coastal and Ocean Management Supervisor at Ecology and brings a great background in restoration work to the agency. Discussion of funding opportunities was led by Olivia Zimmerman later in the meeting.
- Matt Niles reported no updates from State Parks.
- Heather Hall (WDFW) reported that as this meeting overlaps with the Pacific Fisheries Management Council meeting in Spokane, she would be presenting WDFW updates today. Heather shared that PFMC has discussed marine planning issues as it relates to OSW. Additionally, the PFMC adopted a motion to send a letter and dedicate staff to working with the marine and habitat committees that requested:
  - BOEM not take any further action in Oregon until some of the concerns of the marine committee have been addressed;
  - A 30-day extension to the public comment period; and
  - NMFS to provide quantitative impact studies of offshore wind.

## General Coastal Updates

- Dale Beasley shared that he had attended the Grays Harbor County Commissioners Meeting where they heard a third potential offshore energy project on a proposal to create a hydrogen-producing barge approximately 5 miles off Westport. Dale had asked how the proposal would conflict with Coast Guard fairways but did not receive an answer. The proposal is for a 6-month trial (May to October of 2024) but will only move ahead if it receives financing.
  - Randy Lewis provided clarification that the above took place at the Port Commission Meeting on 9/12/2023. This was the same project that was presented before WCMAC in 2018/2019 and long-time WCMAC members may remember it. The presentation was a report on the feasibility and modelling study for this proposed renewable energy project, which would be barge-mounted equipment that would create electricity to generate hydrogen through electrolysis. There is not a proposal to accomplish this, everything is still conceptual with much still to be determined. This project would require a pilot project to demonstrate economic viability, but nothing has been permitted or applied for, and the Port has not received requests or taken any action to move the project forward.
- Brian Sheldon shared the development of high mortality areas for shellfish in Willapa Bay with upwards of 80% die-off. These conditions are presenting challenges for the economic viability of the shellfish industry. Brian also noted that the area has received substantial help from Commerce in getting the South Bend Boatyard up and running though there has been a substantial red-tape issue with Port management preventing the boatyard from getting boats out of the water. Thirdly, Brian reported that they have lost another 15-20% of their farm to burrowing shrimp – natural seed catching beds that have been completely overrun. On the green crab front, Brian reported issues with

running out of bait and the need for better-quality traps as they are currently suffering from durability problems with recreation-grade traps.

- Mike Chang stepped in to note that there are opportunities to elevate some of these issues for longer presentations and more robust discussions if desired.
- Larry Thevik echoed Heather Hall's contributions related to the Pacific Fisheries Management Council discussion and actions on the draft energy areas published by BOEM. He followed up on the updates presented by Dale Beasley and Randy Lewis to note that while the presentation on the Willapa Bay energy project from years ago was a theoretical presentation, there was a practical siting proposal contained within it. Larry noted that the context around this project has changed since the presentation to WCMAC in 2018/2019, and the barge's proposed location is in the PAC-PARs locations which have changed since 2018/2019.
- Chris Meinig reported that PNNL is conducting research to find durable and safe carbon-capture solutions using the ocean. There will be increased activity around these technologies in Washington and they will require the use of renewable energy to be efficient. The approach so far has been very research-based and will continue to work to understand potential impacts to communities. Chris shared that a longer presentation would be coming in the afternoon session.

## Technical Committee Updates

- On behalf of the Offshore Wind Technical Committee, Nicole Gutierrez deferred the update until the afternoon timeslot.

## MRAC Update

- Rod Fleck reported that he had attended the MRAC meeting and that there was interest expressed in more closely linking the MRAC and WCMAC. Rod shared that the meeting was fascinating, and that one outcome of their discussion is today's presentation from MRAC on carbon removal.

## Oregon's Letter to BOEM

### Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative

#### Presentation

*Presentation recording 1:01:26 – 1:29:33. See slide deck in the September 2023 WCMAC Meeting Packet.*

- Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative, presented on the process behind drafting a letter from the Oregon official to BOEM and provided their perspective on the BOEM process in Oregon to date and how it could be improved moving forward.
- Heather Mann detailed the process that had led to the letter from Oregon officials being sent to BOEM. It was initiated by a substantial grassroots effort among concerned parties that began after the release of the BOEM call areas. Following this, there was increased engagement and efforts from organizations such as the Protect U.S. Fisherman Coalition (PUFC) and the Pacific Fishery Management Council. These efforts culminated in

increased engagement with coastal communities, public comment, and letters expressing concerns to the Oregon Governor and BOEM.

- As a result, the PUFC engaged directly with the Governor's office and shared their engagement findings and impressed the importance of stakeholder voice with regards to offshore wind development in Oregon. Ultimately, this led to the letter being sent from the Oregon Governor to BOEM, calling for a pause in their development of Wind Energy Areas in Oregon.
- Heather Mann shared updates on the process since the sending of the letter, noting that BOEM has not publicly granted the pause requested by Oregon and there are lingering concerns around the validity of Tribal engagement and the requirements of government-to-government relations and that BOEM is not listening to experts in their decision-making processes.
- **Key Takeaways:** Heather Mann noted that, from the Oregon stakeholders' perspective on navigating BOEM's offshore wind processes, the BOEM Task Force is not an authentic engagement process and even with strong state leadership, BOEM will attempt to steamroll their way to completion. She also shared that feedback provided by the community has not been transparently addressed or incorporated into the process, which is a departure from what coastal communities are used to under the Magnus-Stevenson Act. She added that Tribal engagement processes and requirements have also not been met by BOEM in this process.

## Questions

- Mike Nordin shared his appreciation for Heather's time and presentation and asked that if the governor of Oregon made a proclamation to prohibit wave and wind energy with a moratorium and it was supported by the legislature, would BOEM be still able to push forward in developing offshore wind?
  - Heather Mann replied that yes, BOEM would still be able to proceed as they have discretion in Federal Waters and could employ strategies such as onshoring the energy in California to circumvent an Oregon moratorium. Heather said doing so would create a PR nightmare and that multiple groups in Oregon would likely proceed with litigation.
  - Mike Nordin asked to clarify that this decision would come down to the President of the United States.
    - Heather replied that it would.
- Mike Nordin asked if there has been any effort to create a grassroots initiative in Oregon that would prohibit offshore wind or wave energy projects in Oregon.
  - Heather Mann replied that there has not been yet. There is currently the Pac Wave project off the coast of Oregon, a demonstration site for wave energy developed over a decade with substantial collaboration among coastal communities and ocean users.
- Larry asked if modelling, which was originally intended as a suitability tool, addressed cumulative impacts, impacts to upwelling, or impacts to the California Current. As a second question, Larry asked what Heather thought would be necessary to bring about a pause and evaluate these impacts and questions.

- Heather Mann replied that the modelling tool had originally been pitched as a 'deconfliction' tool, and that it would be used to identify areas where offshore wind could be sited. Heather noted that BOEM uses only 30 of 400 available input layers and is not being transparent about their methods. Heather reiterated that the public should have input into these processes, the data being used, and the community values being reflected.
- Chris Meinig shared that the Bering Sea Crab industry is currently shut down, in a large part due to climate impacts. Given the climate impacts currently unfolding and the need to address them, he asked for clarification on how the Pac Wave engagement was authentic, and what some principles of authentic engagement might be.
  - Heather Mann replied that authentic engagement is true back and forth, not feedback being absorbed and possibly incorporated. Fishermen were involved from the outset of Pac Wave which was not the case with the BOEM Task Force in Oregon. Heather shared that they would like to see that BOEM understands how fishing works and a process more like those under Magnuson-Stevenson that operates with more transparency. Relationships and understanding were created with the Pac Wave process which hasn't happened with BOEM.

## **CZM Habitat Protection and Restoration Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Competition Department of Commerce Olivia Zimmerman, Department of Ecology**

### **Discussion of Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO)**

*Presentation recording 1:48:30 – 2:07:11. See slide deck in the September 2023 WCMAC Meeting Packet.*

- Olivia Zimmerman presented two proposals that were submitted under the CZM Habitat Protection and Habitat Restoration Competition.
  - The first project submitted was the **Owl Creek Restoration Project, Phase 2**. This project is being led by Trout Unlimited in the Hoh Watershed where legacy timber harvests have reduced salmonid habitat. The project goals are increased salmon populations and climate resilience with public co-benefits.
  - The second project submitted was an **Integrated Resilience Strategy for Padilla Bay**. This project is being co-led by Ecology and Padilla Bay National Estuary Reserve (NERR). Padilla Bay NERR is on one of the largest eelgrass beds in the lower 48 and tidal marsh and swamp area have been reduced by 98% due to diking and other activities. The strategy will advance a locally led resilience coalition, physical and ecological modelling, conduct alternatives analysis, and design to find ecologically beneficial projects for habitat, restoration, and resource protection.
- Olivia Zimmerman shared details about NOAA's Climate Resilience Regional Challenge. The priority of this competition was risk reduction and enhanced climate resilience with preference given to proposals that emphasized collaboration and a comprehensive approach to regional resilience. In responding to this competition, Ecology developed a prioritization framework to identify a packet of projects that includes projects in each of

Washington's three coastal regions (North Olympic Peninsula, North Puget Sound, and Pacific Coast).

- In the North Peninsula, a resilience project for **Highway 112 realignment and transportation corridor risk reduction** was submitted.
- In the Pacific Coast region, the submitted project will **advance nature-based solution implementation for coastal resilience** including revetment work and the development of designs and alternatives for transportation resilience. This project was put forward by the MRC and the Grays Harbor Conservation District.
- Lastly, Olivia Zimmerman shared the progress on Ecology's Coastal Resilience Program that will work with partners to establish long-term visions for statewide coastal resilience. Ecology's resilience team is prioritizing equitable support and capacity building for coastal communities and Tribes. With this framework, the goal is to apply for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), and other funding opportunities more strategically and equitably in partnership with coastal communities and Tribes.

## Letters of Support in December Meeting

- Mike Chang announced that if any of these projects are invited to submit applications, they will be reviewed at the December WCMAC meeting. WCMAC will be asked to provide letters of support for projects invited to apply.

## Public Comment Period #1

- Mike Chang opened the public comment period. No comments were submitted.

## Governor's Office Updates on Offshore Wind Carrie Sessions, Governor's Office

### Offshore Wind Delegation Trip

*Presentation recording 2:12:42 – 2:30:56.*

- Carrie Sessions reported on the offshore wind delegation trip that herself and 12 others took to Scotland and Denmark in the Spring of 2023. On this trip, they focused primarily on supply chain and port developments that were supporting offshore wind in Europe.
- Carrie Sessions shared a list of her personal takeaways:
  - Offshore wind is being deployed rapidly and at scale in Europe and globally. There is a constant adaptation of regulations, permitting, and technology as a part of this process. Substations for floating offshore wind have yet to be deployed. The technology for these substations is evolving rapidly.
  - Technology is evolving to increase the environmental protections related to development including how to incorporate biodiversity and habitat into their design.
  - Substantial work has been ongoing to advance the designs of wind farms to allow for some kinds of fishing to occur within the footprint of the wind farm.
  - There are many innovations in the permitting sphere. Carrie noted that engagement was frontloaded, non-price criteria were being considered in lease auctions, and there



- was conversation with developers about mitigation fees. It seemed permitting for offshore wind and floating offshore wind is maturing rapidly with deployment.
- A focus of the trip was on economic development and supply chain development. There are a lot of economic development and supply chain opportunities to lean into in Washington. Carrie shared an example of a port in Denmark where OSW has grown from 0% of their business to 15% over the past and is projected to be 40% of their business in the coming years.
  - An estimate from another port in Denmark was that 1 megawatt of generation brought 9,000 sustainable jobs to a community, through the construction-operation-decommission cycle of OSW installations.
  - Highly skilled technical workers were identified as necessary for participation in the offshore wind industry and the importance of training and technical college programs was noted.

### Additional Offshore Wind Updates and Approach

- Carrie Sessions shared that after the delegation trip to Europe, they had conversations with the Governor about the future of offshore wind in Washington. Washington is projected to need to double clean energy sources by 2050 and because of this, the Governor's Office is keeping all options open regarding renewable energy sources and knows that there are valid and important concerns from coastal communities. The Governor's Office wants to begin considering offshore wind in Washington by learning from other places where the processes have been inadequate and answering the question of "how can we do it better?" The WCMAC has been tremendously helpful in supplying principles of engagement for the Governor's Office to have when engaging with BOEM and the next step should be building from that.
- Carrie Sessions shared that the Governor's Office is evaluating a strategy that would include hiring a contractor to perform a several-month study recommending a Washington specific planning and engagement process. This study would engage with Tribes and stakeholders (including WCMAC) to identify what a better, clearer, and more transparent process would look like. Carrie noted that this is still being evaluated and considered. If WCMAC members have feedback about this proposal, the Governor's Office would like to hear it.
- Carrie Sessions reported that apart from siting offshore wind in Washington, the Governor's Office is looking to be more strategic about how Washington can support the development of the offshore wind supply chain. It is anticipated that the state will try to support this sector and learn where Washington has a comparative advantage in the offshore wind supply chain.

### Questions and Discussion

- Larry Thevik thanked Carrie for the presentation and noted that a lot was mentioned that is deserving of in-depth conversation. Larry asked if Carrie had been tracking developments related to offshore wind in Europe since the delegation trip, and that he was thinking specifically about recent concerns expressed about the cost of offshore wind development and supplying energy. Larry relayed hearing that a recent bid

opportunity received no bids, and that there have been severe cost increases on the supply and construction side. This points to developers reporting a lack of profitability to move forward, which might suggest that there will need to be further subsidies for offshore wind. Larry also asked how many megawatts of floating offshore wind the delegation was presented with when in Europe. Lastly, Larry noted that there will need to be additional conversations about co-use ideas as there are likely still going to be exclusions as he has substantial navigation and safety concerns.

- Carrie Sessions replied that she had been following offshore wind developments in Europe since the delegation returned though she does not consider herself an expert on all the challenges arising in Europe. Regarding the generating capacity of floating offshore wind in Europe, Carrie reported that there are three currently operating facilities with the two operating in Scotland supplying a generating capacity of about 80 megawatts. It was impressed upon her in Europe that many floating offshore wind installations are in the permitting and planning phase.
- Larry Thevik followed up to ask about the opportunities for providing supply chain support in Washington. Larry recognized the opportunities in Puget Sound, but asked how many of the coastal ports in Washington were equipped to participate in the supply chain.
  - Carrie replied that Larry's was an excellent question and something for the state to study further.
- Mike Nordin reiterated the need for studies on what other, possibly better, options exist for renewable energy generation, looking at both economic and ecological factors. Mike noted that much of the offshore wind momentum seems industry driven, and that if there will be subsidies for offshore wind development, there should be a study looking at other options.
  - Carrie Sessions replied that the Governor's Office is looking at all options as it pursues renewable energy. The Governor's Office sees the State Energy Strategy as a guiding light and feels that it is important to evaluate offshore wind to understand if it is right for Washington.
- Rich Doenges asked if any distinctions arose during the tour between floating offshore wind and earlier technologies on how countries are regulating and mitigating the impacts.
  - Carrie Sessions replied that there was not an apparent distinction between the two as the delegation was primarily focused on floating offshore wind technology. Distinctions that Carrie noted regarding the processes they saw in Europe were the inclusion of non-price criteria in the bidding process and the possibility for local communities to set stipulations and requirements for local benefits within the leases themselves such as local hiring or local material usage.
- Dale Beasley stated that he thinks the WCMAC should take a wait and see approach before engaging with BOEM and that anything done regarding offshore wind should be done to avoid conflicts with existing uses. Dale referenced the construction of dams, noting that those have already created substantial losses for the salmon industry and shared that the coastal community is not interested in trading fishing jobs for more jobs in Puget Sound.



## Chat Discussion

In addition to the above questions and discussion, several WCMAC members contributed to the chat during this period.

- Teri Wright (In Chat): It might be a good idea to include orca scientists at the get go, such as Dr. Deborah Giles and Dr. Rob Williams, to ensure no harm comes to the endangered Southern Resident killer whales. They struggle to find enough salmon -- how will the noise of building the OSW, and the operation of OSW be mitigated?
  - *No response was recorded.*
- Brian Blake (In Chat): Washington has a history of leadership using the SEPA process where the NEPA process has failed to look at global cumulative effects. Will Washington consider using SEPA to force this information into the decision-making process?
  - Carrie Sessions responded that this is something the consultant study could be used to consider.
- Nives Dolsak (In Chat): What is the role of purchase agreements in Governor's thinking about WA offshore wind?
  - Carrie Sessions replied that they will get back to Nives on this.
- Chris Meinig (In Chat): More and more, it is not either or, it is 'all of the above' renewables will be needed to meet clean energy goals. The scale of what is needed is hard to rock.
  - Larry (In Chat): To Chris renewables yes FOSW maybe not.

## Offshore Wind Updates

### Offshore Wind Action Plan on Research/Data Needs and Priorities

*Presentation recording 2:47:13 – 3:15:05.*

- Nicole Gutierrez presented updates on the activities of the Offshore Wind Technical Committee. Currently, the Technical Committee is focused on continuing development of Objective 2, the review of existing data and community research needs that was approved last year. The June 2023 WCMAC meeting resulted in three action items for the Technical Committee: 1) Learn more about the Governor's Office work and study of offshore wind – Carrie Session presented on this; 2) Learn more about the process unfolding in Oregon – Heather Mann presented on this; and 3) review and discuss RCW 43.143.060.
  - In June, the Technical Committee agreed on the general approach that will be outlined in the action plan based on the community and research needs that were identified. The Technical Committee plans to invite subject matter experts to speak on the identified topics.
    - Actions that fall within the scope of expertise represented on the Technical Committee will be addressed by Technical Committee members. This includes identifying information and data needs for the MSP data viewer, tracking offshore wind development in other locations, and tracking the action items that emerge from WCMAC meetings.

- In August, the Technical Committee arrived at a consensus on four data and community research themes and began the process of determining a timeline and sequence for addressing these. They are: 1) Gaining a better understanding of enforceable policies and a better understanding of determinations and opportunities; 2) Understanding how offshore wind fits into the Washington State Strategic Energy Plan; 3) Identifying necessary updates to the MSP data viewer and identifying how to implement those updates; 4) Tracking lessons learned in other jurisdictions both domestically and internationally.
- Nicole shared that the Technical Committee reviewed the requirements outlined in RCW 43.143.060 and had general agreement that WCMAC is meeting the requirements of RCW, but that there are still opportunities to better define the role and responsibilities of WCMAC as it relates to offshore wind. These conversations will be ongoing.
- Nicole asked if any of the Technical Committee members wanted to add additional thoughts.
  - Larry stated that the four data gaps and community research needs are good steps to take. With regard to the RCW review, Larry noted the importance of being prepared and educating ourselves and others on the plans and policies involved and ensuring that the requirements are being synthesized in the future.
  - Dale Beasley shared concerns that he hasn't yet seen how authentic engagement can move forward in Washington and wants to ensure that collaboration between Washington communities and BOEM results in outcomes that are responsive to coastal communities. Dale identified the need for coastal communities to come out of this process in a place where they can thrive into the future, which may be challenging given the losses the fishing industry has already sustained. In closing, Dale advocated for a wait-and-see approach to offshore wind in Washington because he feels once Washington engages with BOEM, BOEM seems likely to advance as they see fit.
- Nicole Gutierrez asked the whole WCMAC if they believe the Objective 2 Action Plan will meet the Objective 2 charge? If not, what feedback did WCMAC members have that could further guide the TC?
  - Rod Fleck shared that he wondered if having sent a letter to the Governor's Office and having heard from Heather Mann and others, if the WCMAC membership could suggest next steps?
    - Nicole shared that one thing there has been consensus on is the need to have a presentation on the Washington State Energy Plan. This could be something the Technical Committee brings to the full WCMAC.
    - Rod replied that everyone would like to see the WCMAC play an important facilitation and educational role in these critical discussions. He is trying to help the WCMAC make folks aware of these important issues.
- Larry Thevik commented on the idea that it is necessary to provide more specific analysis for the unsolicited lease requests. Larry does not think this is necessarily the case, particularly as the Biden administration has not included Washington in its offshore wind goals to date. He noted that responding to the unsolicited lease request would set a

process in motion that could lead to the development of call areas and call requests driving increased interest in the Washington Coast.

- Larry Thevik added that he does not think the Action Plan is in a final state, and that it is going to require further discussion, particularly given uncertainties around offshore wind in Washington.
- Rod Fleck asked if there are items that the WCMAC should consider supporting, looking forward to the first part of the next calendar year, or the next six months.
  - Larry replied that the TC could examine that possibility, but that he didn't have an answer ready at the moment.
  - Dale Beasley commented that the fishing industry and towboat industry have been successfully shared ocean space with ever-evolving agreements, and that the towboat industry has been tremendously helpful in preserving the space available to the fishing industry. Dale wants to frame future discussions in the context of the area that would be lost for fishing due to offshore wind development potentially being larger than the area that the towboat industry has given back to fishing in recent years.
  - Nicole Gutierrez shared that if attendees were interested in learning more, all the Technical Committee meeting summaries are available in the meeting packet. Nicole invited any further feedback on her question to the WCMAC.

## BOEM Updates

### Presentation by Carlos Gomez and Jennifer Miller, BOEM

*Presentation recording 3:15:08 – 3:51:48. See slide deck in the September 2023 WCMAC Meeting Packet.*

- Jennifer Miller and Carlos Gomez, BOEM Pacific Region, presented an overview on the OSW Energy Authorization Process and an update on BOEM's current processes in California and Oregon.
- Carlos introduced the staged OSW Energy Authorization Process which includes four phases: Planning and Analysis, Leasing, Site Assessment, and Construction and Operation.
- In California, Carlos shared that the leases were executed on June 1, 2023, with 2 leases in Northern California and 3 on the middle coast of California. The next deadline is for the submission of Communications Plans. Three Communications Plans are required from lessees, including for Agencies, Fisheries, and Tribes. These plans require substantial coordination between the lessees and each group. After the submittal and acceptance of communications plans, BOEM expects to see survey plans for review.
- In Oregon, Carlos shared that BOEM is currently early in the planning phase, undertaking substantial data gathering and engagement. BOEM is working to make all the data collected in the planning phase available through the OROWindMap. To develop the Call Areas in Oregon, BOEM conducted analyses that focused on reducing conflicts between ocean uses. In response to feedback from the initial call area process, BOEM added a Draft Wind Energy Area (WEA) step to the process, which is where BOEM is now. The draft WEAs for Oregon have been published and BOEM is collecting public comment. These WEAs were developed using the NCCOS spatial suitability modelling and

incorporated constraints, industry and operations, natural resources, fisheries, and wind energy criteria. BOEM increased their engagement with fishing communities and provided the draft WEAs to Tribes for consideration. Currently there is one draft WEA in each of the Oregon Call Areas, with two in total in Oregon.

- Jennifer Miller summarized that since June, BOEM has been preparing to receive the Communications Plans for the California leases and working to publish the draft WEAs in Oregon. Jennifer shared that BOEM is not doing any active planning in Washington and thanked the WCMAC for continuing to engage with and invite BOEM to WCMAC meetings.

## Questions and Discussion

- Larry Thevik thanked both Jennifer Miller and Carlos Gomez for attending. Larry prefaced his question by sharing a NMFS quote that called for the identification of oceanographic effects of offshore wind such as effects to upwelling before WEAs were identified. Larry asked how BOEM plans to reconcile this request from NMFS with the draft WEAs as the current considerations and NCCOS modelling do not consider upwelling impacts. Further, Larry asked what opportunities might exist to improve modelling going forward including re-modelling as was brought up at the PFMC on the previous Monday. Larry wondered why by-catch and short tailed albatross were not included in the OROWindMap tool. Lastly, Larry asked how BOEM anticipated responding to these and other questions, particularly before moving forward as Larry is concerned that there has not previously been adequate response from BOEM.
  - Jennifer Miller responded, noting that she would do her best to address all the questions and concerns brought up by Larry. Regarding upwelling, Jennifer stated that no official decisions have been made on WEAs, and that the drafts put forth are part of the process to continue gaining feedback and narrowing down what feasible areas for offshore wind might be, working from information that they have a degree of certainty about. On the scientific front, the BOEM Environmental Science group is continuing to do research on the impacts to upwelling. Jennifer noted that in Oregon, this process is in the planning phase, where they are still collecting input and information – so far, they have only excluded obvious operational conflicts such as DoD and the Fishing and Shipping Industries and the draft WEAs reflect what remains. Once BOEM begins thinking about specific facilities some of the more specific concerns will come into play through detailed environmental analysis.
  - Jennifer reiterated that she hears Larry's concerns, and that BOEM has not made any decisions yet. Lastly, Jennifer noted that there is presently little to base cumulative impacts on outside of the areas in California, and that when facilities in Oregon are evaluated, California facilities will be considered as a part of that evaluation.
- Mike Cassinelli asked about how wind energy will be connected to the grid. Mike's understanding is that building as close as possible to the grid is desirable, and not doing so has caused some land-based renewable projects to falter. Mike also asked about

selling the electricity generated, and how it will be transmitted off the coast to where it is used, noting that building new transmission lines is likely to be challenging.

- Jennifer Miller replied that BOEM works with Public Utility Commissions on the question of connecting offshore wind installations to the grid. The most likely outcome will be utility-scale inputs to the grid. Jennifer shared that the purchase of the electricity will be handled by Power Purchase Agreements, which are a critical part of project financing.
- Jennifer reiterated that there is no planning in Washington, Oregon planning is still in its initial stages, and that there are 5 active leases in California.
- Mike Nordin asked what environmental group is looking at the environmental and ESA impact questions for BOEM.
  - Jennifer Miller replied that she was referring to the BOEM Environmental Science group who does research and funds research activities. These are BOEM scientists who manage research activities and publish scientifically reviewed articles.

## Marine Resources Advisory Council Updates: CO<sub>2</sub> Removal Jessica Cross, PNNL

*Presentation recording 3:53:03 – 4:15:51. See slide deck in the September 2023 WCMAC Meeting Packet.*

- Jessica shared that the removal of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere is a critical part of every climate and temperature goal and that while there is no replacement for decreasing emissions, capturing CO<sub>2</sub> is also very important. Most pathways in the most recent IPCC report call for the removal of between 5 and 10 gigatons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year from 2020 to 2100. CO<sub>2</sub> removal technologies are not ready to meet this demand, and the longer their development is delayed, the more rapid their scaling will need to be. Jessica noted that CO<sub>2</sub> removal should be treated as a precious resource, used only to offset 'stubborn' emissions such as the use of diesel fuels for marine vessels.
- Jessica outlined the two primary types of CO<sub>2</sub> capture: Bioenergy Carbon Capture and Storage (BECCS) and Direct Air Carbon Capture and Storage (DACCS). BECCS currently substantially outpaces DACCS, and the MRAC is evaluating all proposed technologies for their suitability, scalability, sustainability, efficiency, durability, additionality (how often does CO<sub>2</sub> 'leak'), cost, and more. The goal is to develop a portfolio of technologies and solutions to disperse the costs and impacts of CO<sub>2</sub> capture across a wider area globally.
- Jessica shared that ocean-based methods of carbon capture are in the very early stages of development and are not expected to contribute to ocean acidification. Examples of emerging technologies include "foresting the ocean" using kelp beds or other photosynthesizers, alkalization ("turning carbon into rocks" by adding minerals to the ocean) and storing liquified CO<sub>2</sub> under the seabed. Pilot studies for non-DACCS or BECCS strategies for carbon removal are needed and have been included in the White House's Ocean Climate Action Plan.
- Jessica shared that PNNL wants to be a regional resource for carbon removal across the state, and that PNNL has received funding for several major projects. Currently, PNNL is working on developing procedures and standards for measuring the amount of carbon removed by CO<sub>2</sub> removal technologies and standing up pilot projects with NOAA,

Ecology, and Ebb Carbon (a private firm) to explore the siting of potential pilot projects. Currently, all of PNNLs projects are lab based, and the current siting work would inform potential future siting decisions.

- Jessica offered to answer questions from WCMAC members. As there were none, she invited WCMAC members to reach out to herself ([jessica.cross@pnnl.gov](mailto:jessica.cross@pnnl.gov)), or Chris Meinig in the future.
- Mike Chang noted that this is the start of a strengthening connection between WCMAC and MRAC to better address concerns around the impacts of ocean acidification.

## Public Comment #2

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- Kristine Nevitt thanked the group for their open format and for accepting comments. She thanked the group for their understanding that wind energy technology would improve, and for interceding early to keep BOEM aware of Pacific County's sacrifices, investments, and economy which are all connected to conservation and the environment. Kristine asked about the possibility of opening a new supply chain for the built environment in flyways and bird sanctuaries, which she sees as an offshoot of wind energy projects that are built over water and need good building materials. Kristine shared that she is a shareholder in TetraTech, a Seattle-based engineering firm working on restoration projects. As she has seen a 655% growth in her holdings that suggests growth in this market, Kristine asked if it was possible to place local citizens in internships at firms working on ecological restoration.

## Next Steps

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- Mike Chang announced that the facilitation team will be distributing the presentations from this meeting and the Chair and Vice-Chair nomination form. The meeting summary will be circulated in 1-2 weeks.
  - Garrett Dalan asked if the link that shows term expirations and open seats could be sent to the WCMAC.
    - Carrie Sessions responded in chat: Garrett, I'll also put it in an email to the full WCMAC.
- Mike Chang announced that the next meeting will be in virtual on December 6<sup>th</sup>.



## Appendix B. Technical Committee Meeting Summaries

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Please see final meeting summaries on the next page.



# WASHINGTON COASTAL MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Offshore Wind (OSW) Technical Committee

August 15, 2023  
1pm – 3pm

## Meeting Highlights

- Heather Mann provided a presentation to the OSW TC regarding the letter from the Oregon Governor and Congressional Delegation to BOEM requesting a pause in offshore wind leasing activities.
- The Committee reviewed the Objective 2 Action Plan and determined a pathway for initial items to discuss.

## Participants

### WCMAC & TC Members

- Larry Thevik, Commercial Fishing representative (TC Co-Chair)
- Brian Polagye, Energy representative
- Rod Fleck, City of Forks (WCMAC Co-Chair)
- Corey Niles, WDFW representative
- Arthur “RD” Grunbaum, Coastal Conservation group representative
- Paula Culbertson, Wahkiakum County MRC
- Michelle Conrad, Economic Development Representative
- Rich Doenges, Department of Ecology representative

### TC Members & Facilitators

- Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative
- Mike Okoniewski, Pacific Seafood Consultants
- Heather Hall, WDFW
- Brandii O’Reagan, WA Sea Grant
- Casey Dennehy, Ecology
- Mai Aoki, Ecology
- Taylor Magee, Cascadia
- Jimmy Kralj, ESA
- Nick Hart, ESA



# Meeting Summary

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## Welcome and Agenda Overview

- Jimmy started the meeting and began with a round of introductions for the benefit of facilitation staff and to introduce the committee to Heather Mann, who would be giving a presentation later in the meeting.

## Updates and Announcements

- Jimmy discussed an updated process for finalizing the draft meeting summaries, shifting the editing process to take place via email rather than during the meetings. Meeting summaries would still be reviewed and finalized by committee members, but by shifting the edits outside of meetings, up to 15-20 minutes of each meeting could instead be used to discuss other topics.
- Larry T. asked why a service (opportunity to edit meeting summaries) is being removed, when some committee members have asked for more meetings or meeting time. Larry thinks that the opportunity to provide revisions is useful to help add clarity and was concerned that the opportunity would be lost if the editing process was moved to be email-based.
  - Jimmy replied, clarifying that only the first round of edits would be moved to email, and that an updated draft that incorporates those edits would be circulated to the group and later approved.
  - Larry clarified that he would still like the opportunity to explain edits before a larger group.
  - Casey D. stepped in to explain that part of the purpose of this change in approach is to adequately manage the facilitation contracts with ESA and Cascadia. Currently, meetings have been running over the budgeted amount, which is OK so far, but we need to ensure that the budget is able to last the duration of the contract. During the previous facilitation contract, the facilitation team had roughly 18 months to spend the budget; in this contract, they have 24 months with the same budget, so resources are tight. Casey further shared that previous research into increasing funding for the WCMAC found that such a process would be very difficult as WCMAC is currently receiving funding amounts in line with other advisory boards under the Governor's office. Considering those constraints, it is important to try and be as efficient as possible with the meeting time available.
  - Larry noted that he had submitted edits on June 20 and July 18.
- Jimmy shared an update on the shared resource folder for the Offshore Wind Technical Committee. Dropbox will likely be the platform used for this resource folder and Nicole will continue to advance the project when she returns from time off. Another update can be expected soon. There have been challenges in finding an online platform that works for different agency staff.
  - Larry T. shared that he fully supports this effort and hopes that it can come online soon to support the group.

## Presentation on Oregon Offshore Wind and Letter to BOEM (Heather Mann)

Heather Mann presented to the committee on the current state of affairs regarding offshore wind in Oregon. Heather M. is the director of Midwater Trawlers Cooperative and is an active leader in the grassroots effort (Protect US Fishermen) demanding increased engagement and accountability from BOEM as offshore wind call areas have been developed and announced in Oregon. Recently, these efforts have culminated in the Oregon congressional delegation and the Oregon governor sending letters to BOEM requesting increased engagement and a pause in leasing for offshore wind in Oregon.

*This presentation was recorded, and Heather M. has offered to make her slides available to the Technical Committee. Please find these resources at the links below:*

[Presentation Recording](#)  
[Presentation Slides](#)

Following her presentation, Heather M. responded to questions from the members of the Technical Committee.

- Rich D. asked a series of questions.
  - The group in Oregon has asked that BOEM explore depths beyond 1300m for offshore wind development. Does BOEM say such development would be feasible?
    - Heather M. replied that both BOEM and developers have said that it would be possible, but not profitable. East Coast call areas include areas that are deeper, but no energy areas have been located there.
  - Why 1300m?
    - Heather M. replied that there are fewer fishing operations beyond 1300m which would naturally decrease conflicts with fishing operations.
  - BOEM has been represented as uncaring in your portrayal. Are they changing? What is lacking?
    - Heather M. shared that fishermen have been used to operating under the Magnuson Stevens Act, which is very transparent and straightforward while dealings with BOEM have been the opposite which has created challenges and adjustments. She reports that BOEM is still learning, a task made more difficult by staff turnover at BOEM. The outcome of the current pause will likely be telling in this regard.
  - Is BOEM collaborating with NMFS?
    - Heather M. replied that yes, they are collaborating, however, NMFS is being pressured to advance the process from all sides and is operating with limited resources.

- Do you see any way that commercial fishing can coexist with offshore wind, what kind of information would be needed to feel comfortable saying so?
    - Heather M. replied that nothing has come out to date suggesting that offshore wind is necessary to supplement renewable energy development and that onshore solutions can and should be maximized. Additionally, offshore wind would effectively preclude fishing operations in and around the wind farms presenting the most obvious barrier to compatibility, and the U.S. Coast Guard and Department of Homeland Security will be the ones who ultimately make decisions about operations near wind farms.
    - Heather M. emphasized the importance of learning from the projects that are moving forward and doing studies before construction as much as possible rather than retrospectively. A programmatic EIS from NMFS would help as well.
  - Larry T. asked about BOEM offering Wind Energy Areas despite the calls for a pause, and what those offerings mean for the pause.
    - Heather M. shared that those WEAs had previously been shown to some Tribes in Oregon who were asked not to share them more widely. After the letters from the Oregon Governor and Congressional Delegation, BOEM stopped showing the WEAs.
    - Heather said that her belief is that BOEM thinks that by releasing the WEAs, stakeholders will be assuaged in their concerns, but she suspects that Oregon state agencies will reject the findings included in the WEA assessments.
    - Further, the release of WEAs does not start the clock on leasing activities, and the Oregon state government has been asking for a prolonged public comment period.
    - As the pause has not been publicly announced, it is possible that BOEM could continue to move forward, however, it is not currently expected that they would do so as it would likely cause a mess.
  - Mike O. commented that NMFS + NOAA put out a document on Oregon Call Areas Docket 20220009. Are you familiar with this document? NOAA fisheries has requested utilization of Best Available Science, responsible behavior, decrease in conflicts, are these things occurring?
    - Heather M. replied that these things are not occurring in Oregon or elsewhere.
    - Are NOAA and NMFS voices being ignored?
      - Heather M. replied that yes, they are, environmental groups as well.
- Heather M. shared a few closing thoughts with the group:
- Before she presents at the September WCMAC meeting, Heather would like to know what other questions technical committee members have.

- Please send these questions to Heather directly (heathermunromann@gmail.com), or Nicole (nicole@cascadiaconsulting.com) before the September meeting.

## Revisiting the Enforceable Policies Discussion

Jimmy briefly elaborated on discussions about Enforceable Policies under the Coastal Zone Management Program that came up during the July meeting. Jimmy noted that in Sept. 2020, a WCMAC special meeting on CZMA Consistency was held with presentations from Ecology and NOAA. Jimmy shared that the presentations and meeting summary have been sent to the Technical Committee and asked that members review these offline and submit additional questions before the next meeting. In particular, Jimmy noted that OSW TC members may have more specific questions about how BOEM engages in that process, as that was not covered in the WCMAC special meeting.

- Larry T. shared that he appreciates the opportunity to revisit and further explore this topic as it is complicated to understand with many pieces coming together to influence federal actions that have coastal impacts. He asked a pair of questions:
  - The CZMA includes a reference to a Geographic Location Description (GLD) to connect federal actions outside of state waters to enforceable policies. Does Washington qualify to claim enforceable policies on federal projects without a GLD?
    - Casey D. responded to this question, stating that the state is still looking at a GLD and options regarding how and when to do so. Further, the state does have the option to review without a GLD. On the East Coast, many states do not have GLDs and industry has promised and followed through on voluntary consistency with states.
    - Casey D. shared that the state also has the opportunity to review an unlisted federal action which Washington would certainly do if no GLD was in place and industry had not committed to comply voluntarily.

## Objective 2 Action Plan

Jimmy noted that the OSW TC will provide an update on the Objective 2 Action plan with the WCMAC in September and prepare a full plan for approval in December. Jimmy noted that in order to begin advancing the topics included in the Action Plan, today's focus would be on identifying those actions that might be readily address with currently available information and resources. Four items were presented for consideration in the discussion:

1. Enforceable Policies
  - a. *See above section for discussion of this action*
2. Information on the Washington State Strategic Energy Plan

- a. Enhance understanding of how offshore wind developments fit into the state’s clean energy strategy, possibly including a presentation from Norah Hawkins at the Department of Commerce
3. Updates to the Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) Data Viewer
  - a. Identifying which updates are necessary and how to find the information to add to the data viewer.
4. Identifying lessons learned from other locations
  - a. This includes those learned from Heather M.’s presentation and from the Governor’s delegation trip to Europe

Discussion on these initial action items and others followed:

- Larry T. asked for clarification on the process and how this discussion fits into the larger action plan process as a whole. He noted that Ecology and the facilitation team put out a lengthy document and he thought the idea was to go through that document and identify places to improve or expand it, whereas now the scope is being constrained to short-term actions. His understanding of the process was that it was working towards a framework of questions that need to be asked.
  - Jimmy replied that through previous meetings and discussions, the OSW TC has developed a robust action plan with a long list of actions for the committee to consider. Today’s discussion represents a first step in moving forward on some of those tasks which have been identified already, specifically focusing on those that can be accomplished with available resources. Jimmy clarified that this is not a shift in approach, but rather a first attempt at advancing some of the tasks identified through the process to-date.
- Larry T. then laid out a few action items, as follows:
  - Support for four actions above, noting specifically the lessons learned from Heather M.’s presentation.
  - Support for the continued work of getting the document library functioning.
  - Support for the creation of a catalog of comments to BOEM, as well as a suggestion that Sea Grant might be able to help with this.
  - Support for a review of processes in the state, rather than a focus on specific projects such as the unsolicited lease requests.
  - Support for reaching out to the DOD and getting a summary or guidance related to their guidelines for development and mapping that could be incorporated into the Data Viewer
    - Paula C. shared that maps from the DOD were presented early on when the Quinault Tribe was considering an offshore wind project. Paula is unsure of where that map is now, but it may already exist, in addition to substantial other research related to that project/process.
      - Larry T. replied that those maps are in the possession of the Technical Committee but are from conversations between

- DOD and the developer whereas he would like to see what the DOD would put forward on their own.
- Paula C. agreed, and just wanted to make it clear this wasn't a process that would start from zero.
  - Casey D. confirmed that there has been contact with the DOD and that they (Ecology) are hoping to include some data in the mapping viewer with the ongoing migration process. Casey noted that working with the DOD is always challenging due to classified information.
- Mike O. supported the above actions, noting that these were a good start. Mike reiterated his previous request for an analysis of data gaps, particularly with respect to environmental and ecosystem impacts and especially with regard to phytoplankton and other 'small' things.
    - Jimmy shared that Mai (with Ecology) is currently leading a process to identify these data gaps and that future updates can be expected. Jimmy noted that the Technical Committee could likely rely on this parallel process rather than spinning up its own.
  - RD G. asked about how the Technical Committee might think about unintended consequences, remembering a previous discussion about cumulative effects over 30-50 years. RD also suggested the use of a "strawman" project to explore these questions.
    - Jimmy shared that Mai's approach is similar to the pressure/stressor approach that had been discussed previously.
    - Corey N. echoed these thoughts, sharing that considering stressors and pressures could be a way to probe long-term and cumulative impacts.
  - Corey N. also supported the discussion of lessons learned (action 4 above), highlighting the evident need for authentic engagement gleaned from Heather M.'s presentation.
  - Heather H. gave the list of preliminary actions a 'thumbs up', with an emphasis on the context that could be provided through a presentation on the State Energy Plan.
  - Rich D. suggested learning from other states, particularly with regards to impacts on commercial fishing, shorebirds, and other aquatic life.
  - Mike O. supported the stressors approach to evaluating long term impacts discussed previously and suggested a closer relationship between the Technical Committee and the work ongoing related to data gaps at Ecology.
    - Jimmy agreed that more regular updates on the data gaps project could be beneficial.
  - Larry T. refocused on his previous comment, that the Action Plan is much broader than the initial steps being discussed at this moment. Larry considered a strawman poll of ocean users/committee members to identify which data gaps they are concerned about, particularly to help inform the development of the action plan so that it can encompass more and longer-term/bigger picture issues.

Finally, Larry cautioned the idea of having a final action plan prepared by December as an increased focus on the plan would be necessary.

- Jimmy replied, clarifying that the “final” action plan will be more of a roadmap to highlight what is important with broad-brush approaches. As individual actions are considered, finer details will be determined by the committee.

## Action Items

Jimmy closed the meeting by sharing the next steps for the Technical Committee and action items for members:

- Committee members should review the Sept. 2020 meetings and share any questions with Nicole.
- There will be a progress update on the work completed by the Technical Committee at the upcoming WCMAC meeting in September.
  - Larry T. asked what the process for preparing the progress report will be, noting that Heather M.’s presentation will be a component but that discussion will be needed to figure out what else should be presented.
    - Jimmy replied that it will be an informal update and that the facilitation team will be taking the lead.
- Heather M. will be presenting again at the WCMAC meeting in September. If Committee Members have further questions, please send them to Heather directly or Nicole before the September meeting.
- Casey D. will be out on family leave until November. In the interim, other Ecology staffers will fill his role.



## Appendix C. Meeting Presentations

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Please see available meeting presentations for the WCMAC meeting on the next page. Additional presentations will be incorporated when available.



# Ecology Proposals – LOS Requests

## A. CZM Habitat Protection and Restoration Competition

*i. Owl Creek Restoration Project, Phase 2*

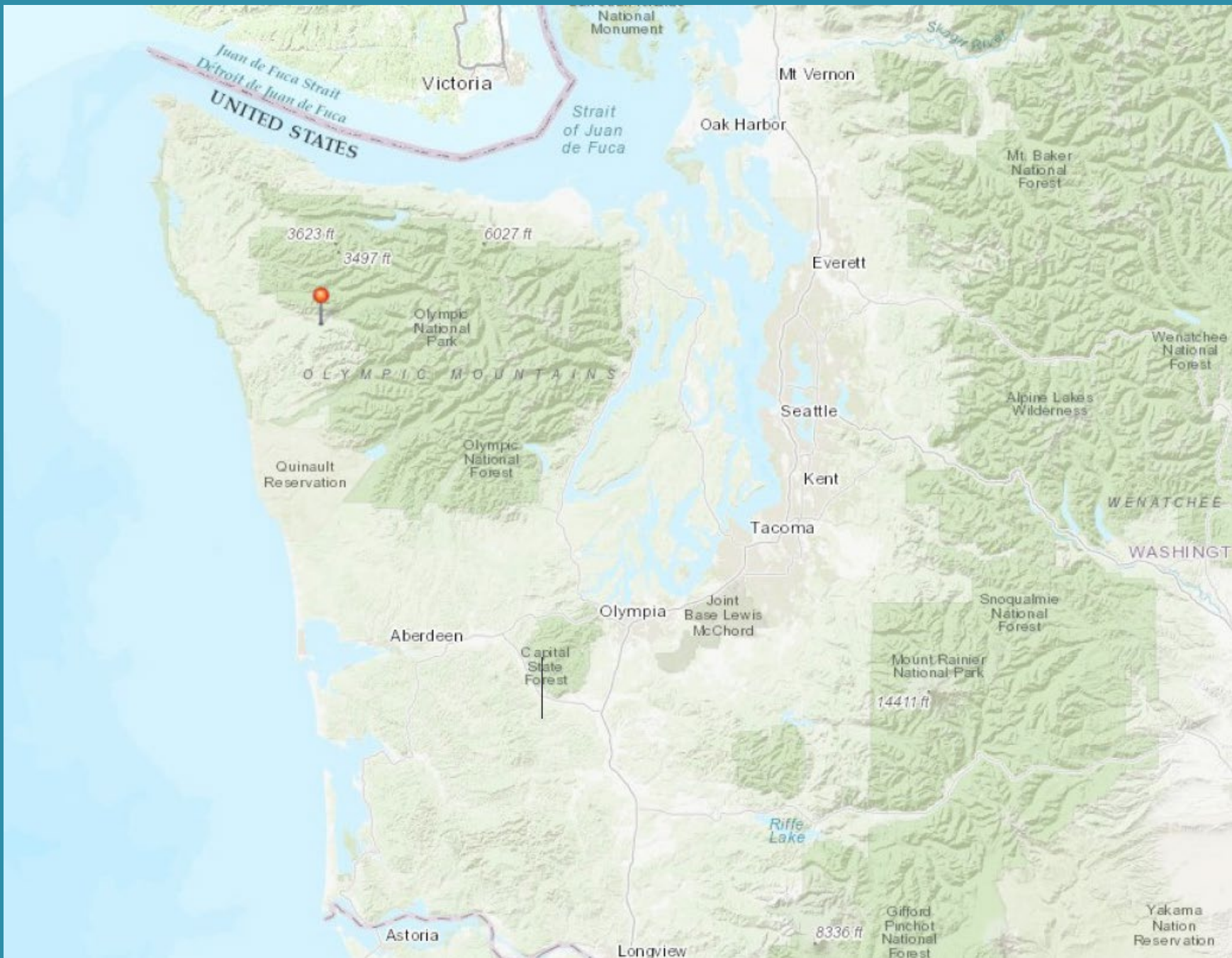
*ii. Integrated Resilience Strategy for Padilla Bay*

## B. NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge

*iii. Washington State Coastal Climate Resilience Initiative:  
Accelerating Implementation of 20 Years of Partnership Efforts*

## i. Owl Creek Restoration Project, Phase 2

- Project lead: Trout Unlimited
- Located in the Hoh Watershed
- Legacy timber harvests have scored and channelized streambed
- Phase 1: Geomorphic Assessment and Preliminary Design
- Project will:
  - Construct 38+ engineered log jams
  - Riparian restoration
  - Monitoring
- Resulting in:
  - Increased salmon populations and climate resilience
  - Public benefits





## ii. Integrated Resilience Strategy for Padilla Bay

- Project lead: ECY and Padilla Bay NERR
- Habitat severely reduced
- Three-tiered strategy
  - Locally-led resilience partnership
  - Physical + ecological modeling
  - Alternatives analysis + design for habitat and community resilience







Proposed project sites

# NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge

## Coastal Sub-Regions

- **North Puget Sound**
  - *Landscape, Cultural Resources, and Infrastructure Resilience*
- **North Olympic Peninsula**
  - *Transportation Corridor Risk Reduction*
- **Pacific Coast**
  - *Collaborative, Nature-Based Coastal Resilience Implementation*
- +Enduring capacity projects

