



17th Annual MRC Conference
The Northwest Straits Initiative In Action
November 6-7, 2015
Four Points by Sheraton, Bellingham

To see photos and presentations from the conference, click here:
www.nwstraits.org/2015-MRC-conference

Friday, November 6

9:30AM–10:45AM	Field Trip - Weaverling Spit Hosted by the Skagit MRC, Todd Woodard	Fidalgo Bay Resort, Anacortes
11:30 AM	Conference registration opens	Lobby
11:45AM-12:45PM	Buffet Lunch	Whatcom
	<i>MRC Chairs/Vice Chairs</i> Al Bergstein	Terrace
	<i>Northwest Straits 101</i> Ginny Broadhurst, Caroline Gibson	San Juans
1:00PM-1:30PM	Welcome and opening remarks Jerry Masters, Northwest Straits Commission Lenny Corin, Northwest Straits Foundation Rud Browne, Whatcom County Council	Whatcom
1:30PM-2:15PM	Puget Sound Shellfish Fisheries: Managing and Policing Harvest Grounds and Markets Rich Childers and Mike Cenci, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Whatcom
2:15PM-3:30PM	Climate Change Adaptation in Puget Sound	Whatcom

Moderator: Ginny Broadhurst
 Lara Whitely Binder, UW Climate Impacts Group
 Kate Dean, North Olympic Development Council
 Dr. Jamie Donatuto, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

3:30PM-3:45PM

Break

3:45PM-4:45PM

Legislative Update, Climate Initiative and Communicating Science

Whatcom

Senator Kevin Ranker, Washington State Senate
 Ashley Ahearn, KUOW

4:45PM-5:00PM

Announcements and Wrap Up

5:00PM-6:30PM

Reception

Fairhaven

6:30PM-8:30PM

Dinner

Whatcom

Using Cinematography to Encourage Conservation
 Dr. Florian Graner, Sealife Productions

Saturday, November 7

7:30AM-8:15AM

Breakfast

Whatcom

8:15AM-8:45AM

MRC Project Highlights

Whatcom

Clallam: Jeff Ward, Internship Program
 NWSC: Sasha Horst, Social Media and You
 Snohomish: Kathleen Herrmann, #CatchMoreCrabSnoCo

9:00AM-10:15AM

Concurrent sessions

All hands on deck: cooperative research to Recover Puget Sound's rockfish San Juans

Kelly Andrews, NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center

Illuminating Data Needs in Puget Sound Nearshore

Dr. John Vavrinec, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

The Nearshore: Why We Care

Sehome

Moderator: Ian Jefferds

Paul Schlenger, Confluence and Snohomish MRC

Jamey Selleck, Natural Resources Consultants and Skagit MRC

Dr. Megan Dethier, UW Friday Harbor Laboratories and San Juan MRC

Dr. Tom Good, NOAA, Northwest Fisheries Science Center

10:15AM-10:30AM

Break

10:30AM-11:45AM

Concurrent sessions

Kelp Mapping and Monitoring: MRC Progress to Date San Juans

Moderator: Dr. Tom Mumford
Alan Clark, Clallam MRC
Marta Branch, San Juan MRC
Dr. Linda Rhodes, Island MRC
Dr. Lucas Hart, Northwest Straits Commission for Jefferson MRC
Traci Sanderson, Snohomish MRC
Eleanor Hines, Whatcom MRC

Nearshore Restoration Priorities and Funding Sehome

Moderator: Shannon Davis
Jay Krienitz, WA Department of Fish & Wildlife
Rich Carlson US Fish & Wildlife Service
Mike Ramsey, WA Recreation & Conservation Office

11:45AM-1:15PM

Lunch and poster session

Fairhaven

Interactive displays by MRCs
SoundIQ/Northwest Straits Commission
Derelict Gear/Northwest Straits Foundation
NOAA/rockfish protection
Sponsor exhibits

1:15PM-2:30PM

Vessel Traffic in the Salish Sea

Whatcom

Moderator: Jeff Ward
Captain Joe Raymond, US Coast Guard
Stephanie Buffum, FRIENDS of the San Juans
Sara Thompson, WA Department of Ecology

2:30PM-3:30PM

MRC Awards

Recognition award: Dr. Terrie Klinger

Whatcom

3:30PM

Closing Remarks and Adjourn