**Nisqually Reach Aquatic Reserve Citizen Stewardship Committee**

**Minutes July 10, 2017**

**NRNC@ Luhr Beach**

**4949 D’Milluhr Rd. NE Olympia, WA 98516**

**Welcome and Introductions**

Committee Chair Daniel Hull brought the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. The June minutes and July agenda were approved. We need to consider holding elections for CSC chair, vice chair, regulatory chair and secretary. After the special presentation this issue was discussed further and the goals of the Citizen Stewardship committee were explained and discussed briefly. Takeaways: effective outreach, specific goals, inspiring people to become more connected and involved with the aquatic reserve system. Add a mission statement to the minutes, agendas that are emails out to members to remind and cement what our mission is to those who may not be familiar with our mission and goals. Pros and cons of recruiting members were discussed briefly. We will do further brainstorming on these issues and prepare a report for the next meeting.

**Special Presentations**

*Dr. Amanda Newsome– Shipping pressures and their affect on invasive species in the Puget Sound* – Dr. Newsome explained how ballast water and bio-fouling vectors contribute to non-native invasive species issues in the Puget Sound. [www.shipmap.org](http://www.shipmap.org) Is a good link to learn more about how and why ballast water is used and how widely distributed the invasive species vectors from ballast waters span. She also discussed methods that are being formulated in order to alleviate these ballast water issues. She also explained how bio-fouling (invasive species that attach and grow on the hulls of ships and methods that are being formulated to tackle this issues as well.

**Science Projects**

* **Forage Fish Survey (FFS)** – Terence

Nothing big forage fish wise at the moment. There are some tentative survey dates And Island on the 20th from 9-4 and on Fri the 24th at Tolmie State park, Hogum Bay and National Fish and Oyster. These dates will be confirmed and posted on the website and our social media sites as soon as they are confirmed. Last week one of the senior guides at the Point Defiance Squarium did a field trip to the center recently, and very spur of the moment and Terence gave the kids a crash course on what forage fish are, what their specific role in the food chain is and their importance. Last survey of the month is Tues the 25th from 12 to 4 in Dupont.

* **Pigeon Guillemot Survey (PIGUS)**- Ann/Terence

We are in week six of the summer breeding survey. William out PIGU intern is doing extended surveys which are providing us with more in depth information as to what is going on in and around the boroughs. It seems that many of our regular sites have not become active yet which is quite late in the season so they may be out of use now. Fledging should happen soon. An odd sight was documented recently. A peregrine falcon actually caught a PIGU and ate it on the beach. The goals of the study are to establish a baseline of existing populations, the boroughs that are in use and the typical prey they are feeding their young. DNR is going to do a video about all the ARs and we are going to be featured especially concerning our involvement in the PIGU surveys. So this coming Wednesday the film crew will be joining Terence on a survey on Ketron Island so they can get footage of the surveys in action. As well as William is pursuing a mapping system of nest sites and make a display of sites that are in use or have fallen out of favor. As well as getting numbers of birds at each site and he is working with professionals and faculty to work on a system of identifying the birds present as well as distinguishing whether they are breeding or not.

**Updates**

**PSC Update –** All surveys are in full swing and they are in the field constantly these days . They are conducting a green crab survey as well as other less invasive crab surveys. No green crabs were found during their survey! Yay! They will send us some dates we can share with AI people in case they may like to participate in any of the current Anderson Island surveys that are currently happening on the Island. Terence will post the times and dates on our social media sites as soon as possible since the dates are in the very near future. A brief description was given of the scope of the survey.

**DNR Update**  - Seagrass surveys are also currently underway.

**Grants NRC Update**- Dan –

*Pier* – no update

*Beach Naturalist Partnership with SSEA* – (now called the Puget Sound Estuarium) We are working on the details and funding that are needed to get the ball rolling on this joint effort and will be announced on social media and in the minutes of the next meeting.

**Education and Outreach –** April and Dan – Summer camp summer camp summer camp! We are still not full for our 8-11 year old camp that is happening next week from Wed-Friday

**Regulatory Actions** – Monument Review. It is the last day for public comments on marine conservation area and national monuments to protect and preserve them. Most of these areas are very large and are in danger of being deregulated mainly for the purpose of off shore drilling for oil.

**Other Business**

Feast at the Reach is just around the corner September 9th get your tickets now [www.nisquallyestuary.org](http://www.nisquallyestuary.org).

Potential social on Anderson Island with all CSC members TBA

Meeting was adjourned at 7:53

**Attendees**

Daniel Hull

Deanna Donovan

Terence Lee

Anne Mills

Kristina Hill

Nat Ostrow

April Roe

Gail Griswold

William Wiskes

Stuart Atwood

Respectfully submitted by Deanna M. Donovan