

WASHINGTON COASTAL MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday June 14, 2023

10am – 3pm

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

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89181301658?pwd=ZDRZMmJUWERKT0lCUXdPR0VYNWhlQT09>

Meeting ID: 891 8130 1658

Passcode: 768879

June 14th, 2023 Agenda

Time	Agenda Item and Description	Objective	Presenter(s)
9:45 (15 min)	Arrive at Meeting Space		
10:00 (30 min)	Welcome and Introductions, Agenda Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome from Chair Review agenda Welcome and roll call introductions Ground rules for hybrid meeting Encourage public comments via chat Adopt summary of December meeting minutes 	Information, Action <i>Reference Materials:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 2023 Agenda Draft March 2023 Meeting Summary (Appendix A) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rod Fleck, Chair Mike Chang, Facilitator
10:30* (10 min)	WCMAC Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership updates Announcements Workplan updates 	Information, Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mike Chang, Facilitator Nicole Gutierrez, Facilitator Casey Dennehy, Ecology
10:40* (35 min)	Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor's Office Updates MRC Updates Agency Updates General Coastal Updates Technical Committee Updates MRAC Update 	Information, Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical Committee Meeting Summaries (Appendix B) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mike Chang, Facilitator Nicole Gutierrez, Facilitator Jimmy Kralj, Facilitator Carrie Sessions, Governor's Office Other State Agency representatives Technical Committee Co-leads WCMAC members
11:15* (35 min)	Pacific Region Renewable Energy Planning Updates	Information, Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jennifer Miller, BOEM

Time	Agenda Item and Description	Objective	Presenter(s)
11:50* (10 min)	Public Comment	Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public/Observers Mike Chang, Facilitator
12:00	<p style="text-align: center;">2-hour lunch break + Field Trip* * Field trip only for in-person participants</p> <p><u>Tentative Lunch and Field Trip Agenda</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch from 12:00 – 12:30. Drive or walk to 2700 Port Industrial Road to visit Fry Creek Pump Out Station, 12:30 – 12:45 Tour, 12:45 – 1:30 Leave site at 1:30, finish lunch Reconvene at 2:00 pm in-person and/or using same Zoom link 		
2:00* (35 min)	Economic Resilience Recommendation: Area Sector Analysis Planning	Information, Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kevin Decker, WA Sea Grant
2:35* (25 min)	Public Comment	Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public/Observers Mike Chang, Facilitator
3:00	Adjourn and Next Steps		



Appendix A. March 2023 Meeting Summary

Please see meeting summary on next page.

Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council Meeting

Draft Summary

Wednesday, March 8, 2023
 Part 1 from 9:30am – 11:50am
 Part 2 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm

All meeting materials and presentations can be found on the WCMAC website:

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

Highlights

- Updates from the Resilience Work Group and Offshore Wind Technical Committee.
- Presentation from Vera Trainer on the Olympic Region Harmful Algal Bloom (ORHAB) partnership.
- Presentation from Rebecca Briggs on the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan update process.

Summary of Decisions

- No formal decisions were made during this meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

- June 14th, 2023 – **in-person meeting**
- September 13th, 2023
- December 6th, 2023

Council Members Present

Brian Sheldon, Shellfish Aquaculture	Mike Rechner, Department of Natural Resources
Mike Nordin, Grays Harbor Conservation District	Corey Niles, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Dale Beasley, Commercial Fishing	Nives Dolšak, Educational Institution
Randy Lewis, Ports	Larry Thevik, Commercial Fishing
Jay Carmony, State Parks	RD Grunbaum, Conservation
Rod Fleck, North Pacific Marine Resource Committee	Brian Polagye, Coastal Energy
Rich Doenges, Department of Ecology	Mike Cassinelli, Recreational Fishing
Russell Callender, Washington Sea Grant	Carrie Sessions, Governor's Office
Chris Meinig, PNNL	

Council Members Absent

Michele Conrad, Economic Development	Garrett Dalan, Grays Harbor Marine Resource Committee
Mara Zimmerman, WA Coastal Salmon Partnership	Paula Culbertson, Wahkiakum Marine Resource Committee

Others Present (as noted on the Teams log-in)	
Mai Aoki, Ecology	Casey Dennehy, Ecology
Kristine Nevitt	Ann Skelton, Pacific County MRC
Kyle Pauley, KXRO, Mayor of Cosmopolis	Jenny Vick, HDR
Kevin Decker, WA Sea Grant	Fred Felleman, Port of Seattle
Jennifer Hagen, Quileute Tribe	Katie Krueger
Chris Butler-Minor, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary	Teri Wright, Wild Orca
Shawn Humphreys, Pacific County Department of Community Development	Garrett Jackson
Darlene Schanfald	Laura Foster, Ecology
Peter Steelquist, Surfrider Foundation	Amelia Ritger, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
Rebecca Briggs, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary	Melanie Roberts, PNNL
Garrett Jackson, WSDOT	Vera Trainer, NOAA
Jimmy Kralj, Environmental Science Associates	Mike Chang, Cascadia Consulting Group
Nicole Gutierrez, Cascadia Consulting Group	Alle Brown-Law, Cascadia Consulting Group

Welcome and Introductions

Mike Chang welcomed participants to the meeting and Rod Fleck followed with a welcome address. Rod F. noted that the next meeting in June will be a hybrid meeting with an in-person and virtual option. More details about that meeting will be provided later.

Meeting Summary Review

- Mike Nordin clarified that he manages both the Grays Harbor and Pacific Conservation Districts.
- No other edits were provided, and the meeting summary was adopted.

WCMAC Updates

- Mike Chang welcomed Mike Nordin as a newly appointed WCMAC member.
- Mike Chang also reminded members that they can send information about upcoming events, meetings, and funding opportunities to him and he can distribute information to the full WCMAC.
- Nicole Gutierrez provided an overview of the 2022 WCMAC Accomplishments Summary document.
 - The document provides information about new WCMAC members, issues addressed during WCMAC meetings, the work of the two WCMAC subcommittees, and other accomplishments from 2022.
- Dale Beasley reiterated his request for the WCMAC to review the various pieces of legislation in Washington related to ocean and coastal management.
 - Mike Chang noted that an overview of the legislation was addressed in June 2022. He also noted that a brief overview of the legislation can be added to the Communications Strategy.
- Mike Chang explained that the June 2023 WCMAC meeting would be a hybrid meeting with both in-person and virtual participation options. The facilitation team is working with Ecology and the Steering Committee to finalize meeting planning details.
 - Dale B. shared that the Port of Grays Harbor meeting room is well suited for hybrid meetings.
 - Mike Nordin asked if requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act related to hybrid meetings. Casey Dennehy noted that there is no requirement for in-person meetings under the Act, but Ecology staff is looking into this further.
 - Larry Thevik noted his preference that all meetings moving forward shift to a hybrid format as it allows for increased engagement and meeting participation.
 - Carrie Sessions hopes that the WCMAC can take advantage of the in-person option for this upcoming meeting. She noted that it may be challenging for some people not located on the coast to attend in-person, however, she hopes that WCMAC members can make an effort to attend in-person if possible. Carrie also expressed interest in taking advantage of being on the coast and look into site visits or field trip opportunities.
 - Rich Doenges noted that it can be challenging for state agency employees to attend in-person meetings during the legislative session.
 - Mike Chang shared a link to a survey to gather more information from WCMAC members about hybrid meetings: <https://forms.gle/xuxaMohyzo2iodMA8>
- Larry T. requested the public comment period be made more flexible so that members of the public can comment on various meeting topics while they are being discussed as opposed to having to wait for the public comment period.
 - Mike Chang noted that this will be considered for future meetings.

Coastal Updates

- Governor's Office
 - Carrie S. noted that today was the deadline for bills to be passed out of their house of origin to continue through the legislative process.
 - HB 1010, the Dungeness Crab Evisceration bill that WCMAC endorsed, was passed in the House, and will now move to the Senate.

- The state's revenue forecast will be released on March 20th and draft budgets will be released by the legislature shortly after that.
- Carrie S. also noted that the Principles of Engagement document produced by the WCMAC Offshore Wind Energy Technical Committee has been received by the Governor's office and is currently being reviewed.
- Marine Resource Committees
 - Rod F. noted that hypoxia was discussed during the December meeting. Additionally, Rod F. noted that the wreck of the S.S. Pacific was recently found and maritime salvage has been adjudicated in federal court. During the January meeting, Jeff Hummel from Rockfish Inc. (which was granted the salvage rights) discussed their efforts to find the wreck and how they will approach the conservation of artifacts. The group also discussed ecological impacts on beaches from recreation as well as updates on green crab, marine debris, and climate change.
 - Mike Nordin noted that their March meeting will address resilience updates and planning for the upcoming annual science conference in May at the Cranberry Museum in Long Beach. Additionally, the committee is in the process of updating its bylaws. The committee continues to discuss green crabs and burrowing shrimp.
- Washington Sea Grant
 - Russell Callender noted that WA Sea Grant is hiring new staff to support fisheries work as well as resilience adaptation. In late-February and early March, Russell C. provided briefings to Washington's Congressional Delegation in Washington D.C. There was strong support for resilience-related work as well as interest to support green crab work. Specifically, Senator Murray's office is interested in ways to increase federal support for green crab efforts.
 - Russell C. noted that the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has announced \$140 million in funding to support coastal resilience work. More information can be found here: <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/national-coastal-resilience-fund/national-coastal-resilience-fund-2023-request-proposals>
 - Lastly, Russell C. announced that he will be retiring in early April and will no longer be a WCMAC member. Washington Sea Grant is in the process of searching for a new director, Russell C. asked people to share ideas about potential candidates with him.
- Department of Ecology
 - Rich Doenges thanked Russell C. for his partnership and support of WCMAC.
 - Additionally, Ecology is waiting for the state revenue estimates to be released before they focus on securing funding to support the resilience budget requests.
- State Parks
 - No updates.
- Department of Natural Resources
 - Mike Rechner noted that the Kelp and Eelgrass plan is under development and a coast-focused workshop will take place soon. Dates and times for the workshop, as well as information on how to participate, can be found here: <https://deptofnaturalresources.app.box.com/s/qw6r3zjmzzkgl83dpa77hcf9b8ab3n9u>
 - Additionally, the bill related to derelict structures is moving through the legislature and both the House and Senate versions of the bill have passed.
- Other Updates
 - Larry provided updates about the crab fishery. This year, the catch value (state and tribal combined) was over \$100 million. However, the price is much lower; last year the price was \$5.50/pound to fishers, but now it is only \$2/pound. This demonstrates the unpredictable nature of the fishery.

- Mike Cassinelli noted that the City of Ilwaco has expanded the acreage it owns surrounding its reservoir. This will provide the city greater control over its land management.
- Dale B. shared that he attended the NW Offshore Wind Energy Conference in Portland. He noted there was not much discussion about cumulative impacts in Washington.
- Mike Nordin noted that there is no formal integrated pest management plan in place for burrowing shrimp and there are no controls being implemented to high density areas. He noted that the Department of Agriculture needs to increase their efforts on the issue. Additionally, he shared that he was at a shellfish conference recently and one speaker stated that there will be ocean energy on the coast within five years which raised concerns for him and related WCMAC efforts.
- Chris M. noted that PNNL is advancing work related to green crab and invited people to reach out to him to learn more.

Resilience Briefing Committee Updates

- Jimmy noted that the Resilience Committee has been working to plan their upcoming briefing to the staff of Washington's Congressional Delegation on Friday, March 17th. The briefing is being sponsored by Representative Kilmer's office. Jimmy thanked Russell for working with UW Federal Relations to help coordinate the briefing.
- The briefing will follow a similar approach to the state briefing and will focus on the resilience recommendations developed by the WCMAC in 2021.
- Rod F. noted it may be beneficial to distribute the 2022 accomplishments document to the state legislative offices that participated in the briefing in November.
- Russell C. asked if anyone would be interested to participate in the briefing and provide a briefing testimonial. Mike Nordin shared that he can speak to efforts in Pacific and Grays Harbor county focused on resilience.

Public Comment

- Garrett Jackson noted that WSDOT has developed a significant project along SR 105 near Tokeland. A proposal is currently being considered by the legislature to secure final funding and WSDOT hopes to start construction in 2024.
 - He welcomed individuals to contact him for additional information: garrett.jackson@wsdot.wa.gov
- Dale B. discussed how the WCMAC needs to be more reactive to ongoing decisions and policies at the federal level.
 - Mike Chang noted that this was discussed at the December WCMAC meeting. Because of the WCMAC decision-making structure, the committee is unable to make consensus-based decisions between meetings. As public comment opportunities arise, Mike Chang will continue to notify WCMAC members through the listserv and individual members can provide comments from their organizations. Mike Chang also noted the difficulties of potential conflicts associated with state agency representatives commenting on federal actions.
 - Dale B. asked how much time is needed to call for a special WCMAC meeting as public comment periods are generally only 30 days. He noted that if WCMAC is to be effective, it needs to be able to respond to these actions.

- Mike Chang responded and noted that special meetings are determined by the steering committee.
- Teri Wright expressed concerns about salmon recovery and ocean condition challenges. Teri W. noted there is no representative related to forest management issues.
 - Mike Chang noted the WCMAC science seat is currently open and asked her to send him any recommendations for individuals to fill that seat.
- Mike Nordin stated there needs to be some answers to the questions and points that Dale B. has raised. He added that one potential answer might be to have more meetings or have meetings focused on specific topic areas. Mike N. also suggested that state agency representatives have an option to clarify that they are not opposed to certain recommendations if they cannot officially endorse a particular decision.
- Mike Chang added that individuals and individual organizations are welcome to provide comments on issues even if the full WCMAC does not make a recommendation or comment.
- Dale B. shared that this is one of the reasons he wants the WCMAC to review the original legislation that created WCMAC. Dale B. stated that the original legislation says WCMAC should be a point of contact for issues that arise on the coast.

Aquatic Science Research – Highlights from the WA Outer Coast

- Vera Trainer from the Olympic Natural Resources Center gave a presentation on the Olympic Region Harmful Algal Bloom (ORHAB) partnership.
- The ORHAB was formed in 2000 after hearing from coastal communities about major concerns related to harmful algae blooms (HABs). The primary goal of ORHAB is to provide an early warning of harmful algal bloom events to mitigate impacts associated with the razor clam fishery.
- ORHAB partners include UW, the Makah Tribe, the Hoh Tribe, the Quinault Indian Nation, the Quileute Tribe, and others. The program began with federal funding, and then continued with state funding provided from shellfish licensing fees.
- There are several ongoing initiatives supported by ORHAB:
 - Monitoring of HABs during warm water conditions.
 - SoundToxins leads a real-time HAB Mapping System that displays alert levels for various different types of shellfish poisoning caused by HABs.
 - Working with different partners to develop an autonomous vehicle to sample for HABs offshore to provide advanced awareness for early warnings.
- Vera T. also explained that Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution has been working with the Quinault Indian Nation to look at the economic impacts of HABs on fishery-dependent communities. Funding agencies are interested to know the cost of HABs on coastal communities.
- ORHAB seeks to provide partners and individuals on the coast with information and tools to tackle multiple stressors including hypoxic waters, ocean acidification, marine heat waves, and HABs.
- The main objectives of this effort are to
 - Construct a comprehensive synthesis of multi-stressor exposure in the Northern CA Current Ecosystem.
 - Understand risks/vulnerabilities of Dungeness crab and krill populations to change.
 - Predict what future will hold through modeling.

- Connect with communities.
- Vera T. welcomed individuals to contact her and share ideas and questions: verat@uw.edu
- Comments and Discussion
 - Rod F. asked about the timeline for the studies discussed and when updated information might be able to be presented to the WCMAC again.
 - The multi-stressor project will run through 2026.
 - Larry T. asked about how effective predictions have been for the beginning of HAB events, but also for the conclusion of HAB events. He noted that HAB events impact the Dungeness crab fishery and modeling may help support HB 1010 related to evisceration.
 - Larry T. will email Vera T. and continue discussions.

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan

- Rebecca Briggs, the Acting Deputy Superintendent of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS), provided a presentation and overview of the OCNMS Management Plan Review Process.
- The OCNMS Management Plan is a working blueprint that describes the goals, strategies, and actions of the sanctuary. The current plan has been in place since 2011 and the sanctuary is in the process of revising the plan to ensure the sanctuary's efforts and investments are prioritized to meet the current needs of the sanctuary and its partners.
- OCNMS has prepared an existing conditions report and developed a scope for the management plan review process. The sanctuary is seeking public comment on the scope of the management plan review process. The public comment period is open until April 3rd.
- Rebecca B. highlighted the complex management regime of the sanctuary and its overlapping jurisdictions with the state, tribes, and other federal agencies.
- The current management plan has six primary focus areas:
 - Fulfill treaty trust responsibilities.
 - Achieve effective collaboration and coordinated management.
 - Conduct collaborative research, assessment, and monitoring work.
 - Improve ocean literacy.
 - Conserve natural resources in the sanctuary.
 - Understand the sanctuary's cultural, historical, and socio-economic significance.
- Comments can be provided through regulations.gov under docket number NOAA-NOS-2023-0003 or sent to NOAA Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, Attn: Management Plan Revision, 115 East Railroad Avenue, Suite 301, Port Angeles, WA 98362
- Larry T. asked about the potential for the development of offshore wind energy facilities within the boundaries of the sanctuary.
 - Rebecca B. stated that NOAA is supportive of renewable energy development broadly and offshore wind is not necessarily incompatible with all National Marine Sanctuaries, so long as it's compatible with Sanctuary regulations. Offshore wind proposals would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. There are currently no proposals within OCNMS so it has not been considered yet.
 - Larry T. stated that the U.S. Coast Guard had assumed that offshore wind development would not be permitted in the sanctuary and they developed their fairways proposal under that assumption.
 - Rebecca B. shared that seafloor disturbance is typically not permitted, however, there are some permits that have been issued for undersea currents that transect the

- sanctuary. Rebecca B. will share associated environmental documentation related to these permits.
 - Rebecca B. noted that comments on offshore wind would be great to include in relation to the management plan update process.
- Rich Doenges noted that regulations related to the Shoreline Management Act should be added to the slide regarding overlapping jurisdictions. Rich D. also asked how WCMAC can engage with the sanctuary moving forward.
 - Rebecca B. shared that the WCMAC can be useful to communicate information from stakeholders to the sanctuary. She will discuss this further with the sanctuary Superintendent.
- Teri Wright asked if permit process will include public comment opportunities.
 - Rebecca B. noted that all permits would require an environmental impact statement which would include a public comment period.

Offshore Wind Technical Committee Updates

- Nicole G. provided an overview of the Offshore Wind Technical Committee including the charge of the committee to address principles of engagement and data needs assessment.
- Casey D. explained that the committee is currently addressing the data needs assessment but has decided to modify its approach to this process. At the previous technical committee meeting the group reviewed biological data, however, some committee members were concerned that they could not provide sufficient feedback as they lacked technical expertise.
- In response to these concerns, Ecology will shift its approach to the data needs assessment and handle much of this internally. Later in 2023, a more complete data gap analysis will be presented to the technical committee. Additionally, Ecology will consider inviting outside technical experts to present to the technical committee.
- This will open up more time in future technical committee meetings to address data in the Marine Spatial Plan and how that data can be used to inform decision-making.
- Larry T. agreed with Casey D.'s comments and noted that he will be testifying at the March Pacific Fisheries Management Council meeting regarding the council's request to BOEM to reissue the Oregon call areas given the data issues and challenges that occurred in the past.
- Dale B. reiterated his request to review legislation that formed the WCAMC as well as the Washington Supreme Court Case related to the Grays Harbor Oil Terminal. Dale B. stated that WCAMC needs to develop an interface that includes the interests of the fishing industry and the public when considering offshore wind development under BOEM. The potential impacts of offshore wind to the fishing industry in Washington are very unique compared to other states. Over the past decades, there have been substantial declines in the number of fishermen on the coast. Dale B. also noted similarities between offshore wind development and the impacts associated with hydroelectric dams.
- Dale B. believes that the primary charge of WCAMC moving forward should be to protect and preserve coastal fishing communities on the coast.
- Mike Chang noted that there is still an opportunity for an additional co-chair of the technical committee. Co-chairs have to be WCMAC members.

Public Comment

- Vera T. noted that the Offshore Wind Conference in Portland sounded like it was a good place to exchange information about offshore wind development, however, the registration fee was expensive. She asked if there are any other ways to engage with BOEM.
 - Casey D. noted that BOEM has presented to the WCMAC before and a BOEM representative typically joins WCMAC meetings.
 - Ann Skelton noted that the BOEM website has information about processes in individual states.
- Mike Nordin asked if there has been consideration of an alternatives analysis; is there a better option than offshore wind?
 - Mike Chang noted that committee members from UW and PNNL can provide information. Mike Nordin noted that many experts on the issue are also proponents of offshore wind development.
- Larry T. stated that alternative uses need to be considered according to the Ocean Resource Management Act. Larry T. welcomed Mike Nordin to join the offshore wind technical committee.
- Nives Dolšak shared that it is important to view efforts related to offshore wind within the framework of the Washington State Energy Strategy:
<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/growing-the-economy/energy/2021-state-energy-strategy/>
- Teri W. noted that data gaps regarding Southern Resident Killer Whales are included in future analyses.
 - Larry T. noted that information about newly designated critical habitat for Southern Resident Killer Whales and humpback whales needs to be added to the Marine Spatial Plan mapping tools.



Appendix B. Technical Committee Meeting Summaries

Please see meeting summaries on the next page.

WASHINGTON COASTAL MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Offshore Wind (OSW) Technical Committee

April 18, 2023

1pm – 3pm

Meeting Highlights

- The Technical Committee undertook a brainstorming exercise using breakout room discussions. The Committee discussed data gaps and updates for the MSP, other OSW efforts to track, information that WCMAC needs to develop a greater understanding of OSW, and how best to fulfill the Committee's Objective #2.
- Based on the discussion, the consulting team will create an action plan for the Technical Committee. The plan will be ready for the next Committee meeting.

Participants

- Dale Beasley, Commercial Fishing representative (TC Co-Chair)
- Larry Thevik, Commercial Fishing representative (TC Co-Chair)
- Corey Niles, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Paula Culbertson, MRC
- Ann Skelton, Pacific County MRC
- Arthur "RD" Grunbaum, Coastal Conservation group representative
- Brian Polagye, UW
- Mike Nordin, Manager of Grays Harbor and Pacific Conservation Districts
- Mike Okoniewski, Pacific Seafood Consultants
- Heather Hall, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Rich Doenges, Ecology
- Garrett Dalan, Grays Harbor MRC
- Casey Dennehy, Ecology
- Mai Aoki, Ecology
- Nicole Gutierrez, Cascadia
- Alle Brown-Law, Cascadia
- Jimmy Kralj, ESA

Meeting Summary

Finalizing 2/21 Meeting Summary

- Larry provided context for his requested edit in the January 17 meeting summary. He had revised a sentence to read, “We must be careful not to be trapped by the use of the word ‘minimizing.’” Prior to the MSP, there were statutory instructions about what should be included in a Marine Management Plan. Plans must include a series of maps that summarize key ecological aspects, environmentally sensitive areas, human uses of marine waters (particularly areas of high value), and appropriate location for energy production with *minimal* impacts. We need to recognize the difference between minimal impacts and minimizing impacts.
- Larry requested an edit to the February 21 meeting summary, in the “Data Gaps Prioritization: Forage Fish” section. He thought that the OSW TC spoke significantly about the impacts to the California Current system. He requested clarification on idea that the Technical Committee is trying to prioritize a potential impact assessment. Larry stated that the Technical Committee cannot prioritize without knowing the data. He also disagreed with the suggestion (from the February 21 meeting) that the impacts of acoustic noise, vibration, and electromagnetic fields are a lower-priority data gap, due to existing research on these impacts. Larry shared that he does not agree that we stated, as a committee, that noise and EMF impacts were low priorities. Those two are towards the top of the list.
 - Nicole noted that the February 21 Meeting Summary summarizes the data prioritization exercise that we initiated in our last meeting, but that we’ve pivoted away from that prioritization exercise.
 - Mike Nordin commented that we might have data, but if it doesn’t bring us anywhere, it’s insufficient. In Oregon’s marine planning, they had data but it wasn’t sufficient.
- Mike Okoniewski noted that vessel noise, bow pressure, and shadows all impact schools of sardines. Marine species are sensitive to acoustic noise and vibration, along with pressure and shadows.
- Nicole reviewed the Ground Rules.
- Dale shared that WCMAC is responsible for creating and carrying out the agenda. He is unsure how the Technical Committee had gotten to this agenda today.
 - Casey noted that the full WCMAC formed the OSW technical committee and gave the Technical Committee two tasks: (1) principles of engagement, and (2) data and community research needs assessment. He acknowledged that the first data needs assessment exercise was too complicated, and that the agenda today is an opportunity to brainstorm and build agendas for the OSW TC and the full WCMAC. We want to know what we should spend time on, and what issues we should be focusing on.
- Dale requested that WCMAC review the legislation that created WCMAC and the MSP. We haven’t adequately addressed that in the past, and it’s appropriate that we review the legislation for new members. There are three pieces of legislation because the Washington legislature didn’t believe we were on the right path. Washington is the only state that undertook marine spatial planning to protect fishing and coastal communities. Every other state undertook marine spatial planning to prepare for ocean energy off their coasts.

- Larry echoed Dale's comments about the legislative language that led to the formation of the WCMAC and the MSP. He recommended we write a summary of the legislation.
 - Nicole noted that the consulting team is currently developing a legislative summary.
- Larry asked if the WCMAC members could identify what research needs and data gaps they believe exist, and then the Technical Committee could assess that list to start identifying data gaps and needs.
- Corey responded to Dale's comments about WCMAC legislation. The state turned those policies into the Enforceable Policies of the Marine Spatial Plan. That is where the legislation ended up, and that is where it will apply most directly in Marine Spatial Planning.
 - Larry agreed with Corey but noted that Dale is getting at the why. Why did Washington come up with these enforceable policies? That's where the originating legislation can provide the context for the product that you're pointing to. That's where it merits more explanation for why and how we got to those enforceable policies.

Breakout Room Discussions

- Nicole reviewed the breakout room exercise.
- Larry commented on the OSW TC Objectives. In reference to objective number two, he shared that our data and community research needs are broader than just the unsolicited lease requests. We can review existing data and community research needs for OSW more generally, prompted by the unsolicited lease requests. However, we shouldn't confine this conversation to the two unsolicited lease requests, since this is a dynamic process, and we don't want to get the idea that our data needs are responsive to the specifics of the two unsolicited lease requests that are on the table. Those are prompting this larger conversation about data gaps and needs to OSW more generally.
 - Nicole reminded the Committee that the objectives were approved by the full WCMAC. If we want to edit them, we would have present them to the full WCMAC.
- **The Technical Committee went through the breakout room exercise. A synthesis will be provided in the next meeting packet in the form of a draft Objective #2 Action Plan.**

Closing

- Dale flagged that we do not currently have a clear understanding of how WA state will interact with BOEM. He shared that Washington needs to do it differently than any state; we need to include fishing and public interests, and we need to efficiently collaborate with BOEM.
- Dale also noted that WCMAC is charged with mediating disagreements. We've never discussed how this would occur and we would need to plan for that in advance of any BOEM actions.

Next Steps

- Next meeting is May 16. The facilitation team will work on **synthesizing an action plan and will include it in the upcoming meeting packet.**