



Northwest Straits Initiative 15th Annual MRC Conference
Celebrating the Collective Impact of Local Stewardship
November 22-23, 2013 - Best Western Lakeway Inn, Bellingham, Whatcom County

FRIDAY

9:30AM-11:30AM **Field Trip: Chuckanut Creek/Boulevard Park restoration sites**
Hosted by the Whatcom MRC

10:00AM-11:30AM **Northwest Straits Foundation board meeting**

11:30AM **Conference registration opens**

12:00PM-12:40PM **Lunch**

12:40PM-1:00PM **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Christine Woodward, Chair, Northwest Straits Commission
Jeff Ward, President, Northwest Straits Foundation

Afternoon plenary session: Climate change impacts - ocean acidification, sea level rise

1:00PM-1:45PM **Ocean Acidification: An Overview of Policy & Science in Washington State**
Washington State Senator Kevin Ranker
Dr. Terrie Klinger, UW and NW Straits Commissioner

1:45PM-2:45PM **Sea Level Rise**
What's happening in Puget Sound region: An overview
Hugh Shipman, Washington Department of Ecology
Measuring and planning for sea level rise in San Juan County—a case study
Tina Whitman, Friends of the San Juans; Andrea MacLennan, Coastal Geologic Services

2:45PM-3:00PM **Break**

3:00PM-3:45PM **Collective Impact: A Framework for Marine Conservation**
Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish MRC

3:45PM-4:30PM **Furloughs and Fish**
Will Stelle, Administrator, West Coast Region, NOAA Fisheries

4:30PM **Wrap up and adjourn**

4:30PM-6:15PM **Networking and Silent Auction**

6:30PM **Dinner**

7:30PM-8:30PM **Evening Program**
Environmental Leadership Award: Jeff June
Feathers: The Evolution of a Miracle
Thor Hanson, author and conservation biologist
 Presentation to be followed by book signing (book available for purchase)

SATURDAY

7:30AM-8:30AM **Buffet Breakfast**

8:30AM-10:00AM **Celebrating the work of 7 MRCs - Ignite Session: Every Picture Tells a Story**

10:00AM-10:15AM **Break**

10:15AM – 11:45AM **Concurrent Sessions**

TRACK A	TRACK B
Tools for Promoting Ocean Acidification Literacy Panelists: <i>Alexis Valauri-Orton, Thomas J. Watson Fellow</i> <i>Paul Williams, Suquamish Tribe</i> <i>Meg Chadsey, Washington Sea Grant</i> Moderator: <i>Mike Doherty, Clallam County Commissioner</i>	Nearshore Habitat Restoration: From Idea to Reality, Advice From Local Experts Panelists: <i>Erica Pickett, Skagit MRC; Paul Dinnel, Skagit MRC; Gabrielle LaRoche, Jefferson MRC; Kathleen Herrmann, Snohomish MRC; Linda Rhodes, Island MRC</i> Moderator: <i>Joan Drinkwin, Northwest Straits Foundation</i>

12:00PM-1:20PM **Lunch and Interactive MRC Displays**

1:30PM-3:00PM **Concurrent Sessions**

TRACK A	TRACK B
Evaluating Education and Outreach Projects: Creating Meaningful Metrics Presenters: <i>Tracie Johannessen, Environ. Education</i> <i>Pamela Jull, Applied Research Northwest</i> Moderator: <i>Robyn du Pré, Northwest Straits Foundation</i>	Rockfish Recovery & Critical Habitat in Puget Sound <i>Dan Tonnes, NOAA Fisheries/NWFSC</i> DNR Kelp Monitoring & Management in Puget Sound <i>Helen Berry, WA Dept. of Natural Resources</i> Moderator: <i>Caroline Gibson, Northwest Straits Commission</i>

3:00PM-3:30PM **Closing**
Congressman Rick Larsen
Witness Ceremony

3:30PM **Adjourn**