

**San Juan Islands National Monument  
Meeting Minutes  
Monument Advisory Committee Meeting  
November 28, 2016  
San Juan Island, Friday Harbor Grange**

The MAC was convened for its meeting at 8:55 a.m. on Nov. 28, 2016 at the San Juan Island Grange at 152 1<sup>st</sup> St. N, Friday Harbor, WA 98250. In accordance with the provisions of Public Law 92-463, the meeting was open to the public.

**In Attendance**

*Monument Advisory Committee members*

Erin Corra (Education/Interpretation)  
Jacquelyn Ferry (Cultural Heritage—on phone)  
Joseph Jones (Wildlife/Ecological)  
Mike Jonas (Cultural Heritage)  
Leslie MacDonald (Private Landowners)  
Barbara Marrett (Recreation/Tourism)  
Rhea Miller (Vice chair, Public-at-large)  
Tom Reeve (Chair, Public-at-large—on phone)  
Tom Reynolds (Recreation Tourism—on phone)  
Jamie Stevens (Local Government)  
Shirley Williams (Tribal Interests)

*BLM staff*

Jeff Clark (Public Affairs).  
Marcia deChadenedes (Monument Manager)  
Lauren Pidot (Planner)  
Anjolene Price (Planner)

*Public present for all or a portion of the meeting*

Troy Olsen

**Welcome of New Members and Introductions**

All MAC and staff members introduced themselves to get to know new members a little bit and understand each other's background.

**MAC Business**

Tom Reeve gave an update of his understanding of the Antiquities Act and what might occur with the SJINM or other designations under the new administration. He explained that Congress could change or abolish the Antiquities Act but that would not affect the SJINM; they also have the authority to make laws to remove monument designations. In the past, presidents have not rolled back Monument designations made by their predecessors; the Antiquities Act empowers the president to set aside areas for protection as monuments but it does not lay out the power to remove landscapes from protection.

**Update on Monument Activity**

Marcia updated MAC on the Manager's report. The BLM will host an archeological field school on Iceberg Point with students from Pullman, WA. A draft report should be coming out in about a month

on last summer's sound monitoring study for San Juan and Lopez. This work was done by an intern in partnership with the county. The BLM desires the baseline data for all sound and the county desired data on overflights. Turn Point got a new beautiful \$12,000 door and new windows. The museum was moved down to the Fog Signal Building from the Mule Barn. The transfer of Turn Point to the BLM from USCG may happen at the end of this calendar year. The USCG are lifting and rehabbing the ground underneath Cattle Point Light Station (which remains under USCG jurisdiction) next summer. A new Hands on the Land program has been initiated with Friday Harbor Elementary and they will also join new Friends of Cattle Point. We're working on a joint agency plan on recovery efforts for the Island Marbled butterfly—the BLM is mostly focused on the education piece. Patos has an exhibit design underway for the interior of the lighthouse. Both lighthouses need new board members so please solicit volunteers or consider volunteering. There will be language in the resource management plan that will allow for the application of plan decisions to acquired lands as long as they are similar to lands already in the Monument and within the scope of the analyzed impacts.

### **Update on Planning Process and Schedule**

Lauren went over the current status of the planning effort and where we are in the schedule. We are still working on getting the GIS layers together so that we can finish the affected environment sections and start analysis, but hope to have this done by the end of the year. Currently the team is working on finishing their affected environment sections (and incorporating comments the MAC made on the AMS). We are hoping to start analysis early in the year. We hope to publish the draft RMP/EIS for public comment in early summer 2017.

### **Break**

10:15-10:30 a.m.

### **Review of Catalog of Monument Sites**

Lauren and Anjolene introduced the catalog of Monument locations. Anjolene developed it and is seeking MAC input on the draft document. Maps will be added and the way the catalog is organized is based on those maps. The main idea is this is a working draft and still very much in development. The intent of this product is to help the public have a better understanding of the scope of lands that are part of the Monument as well as the types of activities that currently take place on them. Lauren noted that this catalog is an outreach document and is not directly part of the planning process (it's not describing either what is technically currently allowed within the Monument or the activities the BLM is considering prohibiting or allowing under each alternative).

Jamie suggested a good way to introduce the Monument to the public would be to put in existing and proposed uses for each area. Marcia mentioned we'd like to include activities that are being encouraged at particular locations rather than all of the uses each area is open to. Rhea suggested including both the Monument's physical and mailing address in the document. Discourage hard copies until the plan is done, unless clear dates and caveats are added since the catalog will be dated and the activities allowed/encouraged may change under the approved plan. Tom Reeve says it should have language in the description saying that it is describing what we think is happening now and may not reflect what is true now. Can we put a date and say true only until Feb. 2018? He also thinks geographically versus alphabetically by quadrant makes more sense. There was more discussion about this and the consensus seemed to be to organize it alphabetically with no quadrants and one big table of contents is the best. BLM's Washington State Recreation Guide uses for SJINM need to be revised with next update as well.

Shirley Williams noted that Tribal Rights should be included at least in the introduction. She suggested adding traditional names used when appropriate. Suggestion was also made to add a leave no trace or tread lightly statement to the introduction of the catalog. Tom Reeve also added that permit language could also be included. Suggestion was made to make it clear when areas were connected (e.g., trails between Chadwick Hill, Watmough Bay, Point Colville).

Partners, cooperating agencies, the MAC, the proclamation, and the purpose and need could all be added to an appendices. On the specific activities for each location we should remove some of the watercraft icons unless there is actually a good place to land. Lots of discussion went back and forth about the title, the use and longevity of this document. Anjolene will add some ideas and language for MAC review. In the meantime, the comments and feedback on the catalog are due back to Anjolene by **COB on Monday Dec. 12.**

### **Lunch and Public Comment Period**

Public comment period saw Troy Olsen of the Lummi Nation address the MAC and talked about his appreciation of being able to listen to the planning process and to talk about the importance of passing on tribal and cultural experiences with his children, other tribes, and with the general public. He wants to develop a cultural or interpretive site for the Coast Salish people. He was appreciative of the time and effort put in by the MAC to make a good Monument plan.

### **Discussion/review of Range of Alternatives**

Lauren led the discussion and review of the preliminary range of alternatives. She explained the wording and why things are organized the way they are. She also explained that the eventual Proposed RMP (developed after the Draft RMP/EIS comment period) can include approaches from multiple alternatives. Many of the options in the different preliminary draft alternatives are from public comments.

Vegetation management, cultural resource protection, and hunting/shooting opportunities and/or prohibitions garnered much discussion. There was some confusion over whether the shoreline stabilization that has taken place within the Monument to this point would be considered soft or hard armoring (soft armoring is allowed under all alternatives; hard is currently only allowed under one). Rich Bailey sent an email with definitions of each type of armoring and clarified that all armoring that has taken place to date in the Monument would be considered soft armoring under the plan (and thus could take place under any alternative). Jamie Stephens expressed an interest in seeing hard armoring allowed under multiple alternatives. There was also a discussion about the tradeoffs, for tribal interests, between the extent of the trail network—a relatively large network of maintained trails could facilitate access for elders and others, but more maintained trails would also mean more access for the general public. This started to lead into our next discussion regarding how to present this to the public. Marcia mentioned that communicating to the public through the idea of front country, back country and primitive areas (or something else that would differentiate the sites as well as authorized uses) might be helpful.

### **Break**

1:55-2:05 p.m.

### **Brainstorm on Presenting Alternatives to the Public**

Using the Yosemite Merced River Plan Workbook (attached) as a launch point, Lauren asked for ideas about releasing our alternatives in a similar way or in a different medium. One suggestion was to let the

public know this isn't coming top down and all their comments were listened to and mostly incorporated. A summary statement showing the range of comments with actual quotes may go a long way toward this. A couple more suggestions were to make the monument site catalog have more information relevant to the alternatives. Most felt the site catalog was easier to digest than the Yosemite Merced River Plan. Rocks and Islands could be combined to shorten the document for the purposes of outreach on the alternatives. Recreation Management Areas could be a way to organize the site catalog. There was discussion about when the outreach document should be shared. There were a variety of opinions (e.g., before draft comment period or when draft is released), but general agreement that it should be released before meetings during the draft comment period to give people a chance to review. Marcia would like to see what people have been brainstorming up on a flipchart to see everything.

### **Notes on Public Outreach from the Flip Chart**

#### Alternative Outreach (from Flip Charts)

- Add to site catalog for outreach on alternatives:
  - Icons and info from each alternative to each site page (to compare alternatives side by side).
- Small islands/rocks condensed—use RMAs to organize areas
- Use a table similar to Yosemite p. 26-27
  - Table could focus on human use
- Yosemite p. 16 could be used to help describe preliminary alt. concepts and examples of sites specific actions.
- On each site page, add quotes and comments that led us to the range of alternatives
- Add timeline—what has occurred up to this point (helps show process)
- Create both options for displaying non-recreation/non-site-specific management
  - Option A: each page includes basic info on other key, non-site-specific activities (e.g., cultural, veg management).
  - Option B: include only a summary of non-human uses/non-site specific info at back of document—refer to it in the table of contents.

### **Public Comment Period**

Mr. Olsen again addressed the MAC and spoke of existing programs in other states with the National Park Service where facilities and sites may be developed for interpretation for the general public but also for traditional uses by the local tribes, suggesting that we consider those opportunities. He described the Coast Salish people being displaced onto reservations and that children didn't know where they were really from. He pulled into focus the great opportunity to connect with tribes that this Monument has.

### **Future Meeting**

There will be another MAC meeting Monday, Jan. 30, 2017 at the Lopez Library at 2225 Fisherman Bay Rd, Lopez Island, WA 98261. Future doodle polls for scheduling MAC meetings will not consider Mondays or days following holidays for staff travel consideration.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.