

Port of Port Townsend Public Workshop Wednesday, May 12, 2021, 9:30 AM

Via Zoom https://zoom.us/

or call (253) 215-8782 – and use Webinar ID: 862 6904 3651, Password: 911887 This meeting will only be accessible remotely, as per Governor's Proclamation 20-28.

AGENDA

- "Salmon in the Salish Sea and Beyond" presentation:
 - Jacques White, Long Live the Kings
 - o Joseph Bogaard, Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition
- Quilcene Planning

This workshop is open to Commissioners, Management, other Port staff, consultants, and the public. It is not the opportunity to give public testimony, but if the Commissioners request input from individuals in the audience, those people may speak. The principal purpose of the workshop is to allow Port staff and the Board of Commissioners to communicate with each other and/or Consultants, answer Commission questions, and get the Commission's opinions and input regarding the subject topic(s).

Port of Port Townsend Public Workshop May 12, 2021, starting at 9:30 AM via Zoom Presentation: "Salmon recovery in the Salish Sea and Beyond"

<u>Presentation</u>: "Salmon recovery in the Salish Sea and Beyond" by Jacques White, Executive Director of Long Live the Kings and Joseph Bogaard, Executive Director of Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition

Presentation Description:

Salmon are an iconic part of our environment, culture, and economy in the Pacific Northwest. Many organizations including Long Live the Kings and Save Our Wild Salmon have worked to identify critical challenges facing salmon, bringing together needed experts and resources to provide scientific understanding and then driving informed management solutions and actions based on that understanding. A prime example of such a challenge is poor marine survival of Chinook and Coho salmon and steelhead populations in the Salish Sea which have declined by up to 90%, and their abundance remains well below what it was 30 years ago. In addition, barriers to migration in the Salish Sea and its watersheds and in the Columbia River basin are severely limiting access to and from upstream habitats that have been identified as high-quality refugia for our fish populations in the face of a changing climate, and are therefore limiting recovery options. In the meantime, salmon and steelhead in the North Pacific Ocean have experienced hotter water and poor ocean feeding conditions for multiple years in a row, further stressing our populations. These factors mean our investments in hatchery and harvest reform and in freshwater and estuarine habitat protection and restoration, including dam and barrier removal in places like the Snake River Basin are even more important now. The loss of salmon threatens the heart of Pacific Northwest culture, a multi-billion-dollar fishing industry, deeply rooted Native American rights and traditions, and the health of our freshwater and marine ecosystems including our iconic southern resident killer. We will discuss efforts under way to address these challenges locally and regionally, some new and emerging opportunities, and some suggestions for how the Port of Port Townsend might contribute.

Biographies of the Speakers:



Jacques White grew up in Olympia, earned degrees from the University of Washington, Louisiana State University, and the University of Maryland, and has led research in the deep sea and along coastlines. Jacques currently works with Long Live the Kings staff, Board and partners to bring new approaches to solving complex endangered species and natural resource problems. He provides support and guidance as an Executive Committee member of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council of the Puget Sound Partnership, served as part of Governor Jay Inslee's Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force, and serves on the Advisory Panel for the U.S. Section of the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission.



Joseph Bogaard is the executive director for the Save Our wild Salmon Coalition. He began working for Save Our wild Salmon (SOS) in the mid-1990s. SOS is a 30-year-old coalition of 40+ conservation, commercial and sport fishing, orca and clean energy non-profit organizations working to protect and restore harvestable salmon populations in the Columbia-Snake River Basin for the benefit of people, fish and wildlife, and ecosystems. Joseph has an educational background in science and natural resource policy.

Joseph will lead a discussion about the groundbreaking proposal introduced in February by Congressman Mike Simpson (R-ID) that aims to restore salmon in the Snake River Basin and across the Northwest, uphold our nation's responsibilities to Tribes, and invest in our region's communities and energy and transportation infrastructure.

QUILCENE OUTREACH: 2021

By connecting, cooperating, and learning from each other, we can accomplish great things with the Quilcene community.

What It Is

The purpose of this effort is to seek a new and more meaningful way for the citizens of south Jefferson County and Quilcene to express their concerns and hopes for the future of the Port's Herb Beck Marina facility in Quilcene.

The facility is located on Quilcene Bay at the southern terminus of Linger Longer Road (see picture, below). The property encompasses some 58 acres of waterfront and uplands, together with roughly two (2) acres of tidelands on the west side of the Bay. The uplands currently play host to Coast Seafoods Company, a gravel parking lot, public restroom and laundry, a marina office, and a swimming beach. The tidelands are occupied by a 51-slip recreational marina, boat launch ramp, and rock breakwaters. For more information about the facility, follow this link.

Herb Beck Marina, Quilcene (Coast Seafoods, Inc. Oyster Hatchery located center-right)



Faced with restrictions on in-person meetings of the Commission during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Port is seeking innovative ways to hear from citizens on important issues involving the future of its Quilcene property. According to Commission President Hanke, "We have found that south county residents are eager to become involved and share their views — and we want to help make that happen in a straightforward, welcoming, and conversational way."

The "Quilcene Outreach: 2021" project is an effort to actively listen to citizens - without the interference of an overly bureaucratic process. We are cordially inviting area residents to

participate in discussing issues related to the future of the Quilcene facility, and improvements that can be made to better serve the needs of the community.

Why It Is Needed

The need for more and better communication between Quilcene residents and the Port was recognized by the Commission in January of this year. The Commissioners were unanimous in their support for encouraging a dialogue with citizens about this treasured public gathering place and community asset. "Quilcene Outreach: 2021" is intended to fulfill this goal and to ensure that the Port is actively listening to, and learning from, the people who use the facility and know it well.

One of the objectives of the effort is to provide an avenue for a broad cross-section of people to participate in Port governance issues and have a voice. By facilitating an informal "listening tour" with limited in-person, phone, and online communication (without direct Port staff or Commissioner participation), we hope to ignite community conversations on important Port issues and gain insights from a wide cross-section of the Quilcene community. With your help we hope to learn how best to improve the marina, and what types of upland uses should be established in the future.

How It Will Work

This outreach effort will be advertised via the Port's website, posters placed in key locations throughout the community, the *Port Townsend-Jefferson County Leader*, and by word of mouth. The Port has retained long time local reporter Jeannie McMacken to conduct one-on-one conversations with up to 100 citizens to learn how people use the Quilcene facility, what they value most about it, and what they would like to see change. Between mid-May and mid-August, residents will be either contacted directly by Jeannie, have the chance to request and schedule an interview with her, or complete an online questionnaire about the present and future of the Herb Beck Marina. We may also seek to have in-person listening sessions in Quilcene where people can drop by and speak in person, one-on-one, with Jeannie for 10-20 minutes. Eight (8) straightforward questions will guide these conversations (i.e., see the questionnaire, below) as we seek to learn from you.

Careful notes will be taken during each of the phone conversations/in-person meetings, and common themes will be identified and recorded. A report will then be prepared and presented to the community and Commission – hopefully at an in-person meeting at the Quilcene Community Center late this summer. This "report-out" to the Quilcene community is important to ensure that we've heard and accurately characterized what you've said. However, any in-person community meeting will obviously depend upon local Health Department recommendations concerning the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ultimately, via the online questionnaire, phone conversations, and one-on-one "drop by and speak with Jeannie" meetings, we hope to learn from as many citizens as possible. The "key

themes" identified from this listening process will be used by the Port to guide capital budget and policy decisions regarding the future of this treasured south county facility.

How It Will Benefit Quilcene & How It Will Be Used

An important benefit of the "Quilcene Outreach: 2020" process is that it will elevate the discussion both within the community and the Port. Out of this process, we hope to develop a new etiquette for participation that will invite a sharing of ideas, greater community knowledge of Port issues, and help to better align the Port's decision-making with the community we serve.

In sum, we want to improve communications and our own listening skills. We want to work with you to solve problems and achieve shared goals in creative ways. We encourage you to come forward, make your voice heard, and become involved in proactively helping us chart the future of this beloved community facility.

Eight Questions to Guide Our Conversation

- 1. Do you use the Port's Quilcene facility? ____ Yes ____ No
 - a. If "yes" how often? And, what for?
 - b. If "no" why not?
- 2. What do you value most about the facility and wish to see preserved?
- 3. What do you dislike about the facility and wish to see changed?
- 4. What aspects of the facility are most in need of improvement?
- 5. What does the facility not have that the Quilcene community really needs?
- 6. What three (3) things would you like to see at the Port's Herb Beck Marina facility in the next five years? What about the next ten years?
- 7. If, like Rip Van Winkle, you fell asleep for twenty years, what do you think you would see at the Quilcene facility when you awoke?
 - a. If you had control, would you change this vision?
 - b. If "yes", in what way, and why?
- 8. What else would you like to share with us that we really need to know?

Respond to the Eight Questions via this Link

Other Helpful Links and Information