

Resolution No. 2009-14

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY MARINE
RESOURCES COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Grays Harbor Board of County Commissioners recognizes that the marine waters of Grays Harbor County represent an unparalleled resource of important environmental and economic value to the people of the region and the state for now and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to actively promote local protection and restoration of the County's marine resources by supporting research and education about these waters; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature adopted Chapter 36.125 of the Revised Code of Washington to allow counties to establish Marine Resource Committees to provide an ecosystem focus on the marine resources of Washington State's Pacific Coastline and to help mobilize science to focus on key priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Exploratory Marine Resources Committee, at the request of the Board, studied the formation of a Marine Resources Committee in Grays Harbor County, and has issued a positive recommendation to do so, including outlining a vision and developing work plans for projects; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to protect the local marine environment and contribute to the overall protection of the marine environment of Washington State's Pacific Coastline by forming a Grays Harbor County Marine Resource Committee pursuant to Chapter 36.125 RCW; and

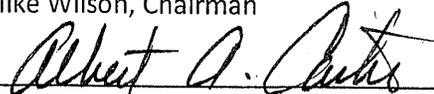
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners does hereby establish a Grays Harbor County Marine Resources Committee whose mission is to address local marine issues, recommend remedial actions to local, state, and federal authorities, build local awareness of the issues and support for remedies consistent with the Benchmarks of Performance as adopted by the Coastal MRC Work Group on January 7, 2009, including specific tasks identified in "Exhibit A."

Approved and adopted this 16th day of March, 2009.

Grays Harbor County
Board of County Commissioners



Mike Wilson, Chairman



Albert A. Carter, Member



Terry L. Willis, Member

Attest:



Clerk of the Board

Exhibit A to Resolution No. 2009-14

Purpose of the Grays Harbor Marine Resources Committee: To achieve the vision established in the report "A Recommendation for Establishing a Grays Harbor County Marine Resources Committee," dated March 2009.

Powers and Duties of the Marine Resources Committee: The Marine Resources Committee shall:

1. Advise the Board of County Commissioners about research, educational, and regulatory measure necessary to protect and restore the marine resources of the County.
2. Promote specific projects necessary to achieve the protection, restoration, and enhancement of the marine resources of the County.
3. Advise the Board of County Commissioners about efforts that should be developed or encouraged to promote conservation, protection, and restoration of marine habitats and resources.
4. Help assess marine resources problems and the need for preventative or corrective measures in concert with governmental, nongovernmental, tribal, recreational, and commercial interests.
5. Help identify implications, needs, and strategies associated with the sustaining marine species in and around the County, and do so in concert with the above-mentioned entities.
6. Coordinate with the State Ocean Caucus and the Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Ecology to promote the recommendations of the Washington Ocean Action Plan.
7. Reach out to the public and other key constituents on the link between healthy marine habitat and healthy resources
8. Report annually to the Board of County Commissioners on its activities and recommendations.

Membership of the Marine Resource Committee: There shall be fifteen (15) voting members of the Marine Resource Committee, selected by the Board of County Commissioners to ensure that the membership of the committee is balanced and representative. The voting members shall be at least one person from each of the following membership categories:

- Conservation/ Environmental Groups
- Recreational Groups
- Economic Groups
- Scientific Community
- Tribal Government

- Government
- Local Citizens
- Sport Fishing
- Commercial Fishing / Crabbing/Aquaculture
- State Agencies
- Education

Members shall serve staggered two-year terms. Marine Resources Committee members shall select a chair and by laws by majority vote.