



2015 Report to the Legislature

Coastal Marine Resources
Committees Program



Washington
Department of
**FISH and
WILDLIFE**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements

Coastal Marine Resources Committees Program

Program Overview

Program Actions

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Responsibilities and Actions

North Pacific MRC– Clallam and Jefferson Counties

Grays Harbor County MRC

Pacific County MRC

Wahkiakum County MRC

MRC Summit

Conclusion

Coastal MRC Program Priorities and Benchmarks

Acknowledgements

This report summarizes the hard work of the Marine Resources Committees (MRCs) Program. We acknowledge the coordinators of MRCs in each county for their organization, vision, dedication and facilitation skills. Coordinators include: Tami Pokorny (Jefferson County), Garrett Dalan (Grays Harbor County), Jeni Maakad (Pacific and Grays Harbor County Conservation District), and Carrie Backman and assistant coordinator Donna Westlind (WSU Wahkiakum County Extension).

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2015 Report to the Legislature
Coastal Marine Resources Committees Program
December 2015

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COASTAL MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEES PROGRAM

The goal of the Coastal Marine Resources Committees Program is to understand, steward, and restore the marine and estuarine ecological processes of the Washington coast in support of the ecosystem health, sustainable marine resource-based livelihoods, cultural integrity, and coastal communities.

Washington's coastal and ocean resources provide vital economic, recreation, transportation, and cultural benefits to coastal and state residents. Identifying and implementing realistic, effective, and efficient solutions to the unique conservation and management issues of Washington's outer coast requires utilizing the available knowledge and creative approaches of coastal citizens and leaders. Citizen-based Marine Resources Committees (MRCs) have proven to be an effective mechanism to harness the dedication, innovation, and wisdom of coastal residents.

MRCs are county-based, volunteer committees that carry out local projects and activities and advise the county on marine resource issues. MRCs are composed of representatives from the scientific community, local and tribal governments, local citizens, and economic, recreational, and conservation interests.

The Washington State Legislature endorsed and funded the MRC model in the 2007 and 2008 legislative sessions. As directed by RCW 36.125, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) created the Coastal MRC program. The program provides support for the development, administration, and coordination of the coastal MRCs and their projects. All of the coastal counties (Clallam, Jefferson, Grays Harbor, Pacific, and Wahkiakum) have created unique MRCs and currently implement community-based projects.

Coastal MRC activities are guided by a set of interim program priorities, benchmarks, and a program goal statement that were developed by the Coastal MRC workgroup in 2009 (Appendix A). These measurements were developed to ensure coordination among MRCs, and to provide accountability to WDFW and the Legislature. The program priorities are to: 1) establish and maintain coastal MRCs, 2) complement existing efforts, 3) build participation, 4) utilize science, and 5) promote healthy communities and resources. The program benchmarks focus on the following broad categories: 1) marine habitats, 2) marine life, 3) marine and fresh water quality, 4) sound science, 5) education, and 6) coastal communities. The following pages summarize each of the MRC activities during 2014 with the respective benchmarks that their activities address.

PROGRAM ACTIONS

Allocate programmatic funding for MRC activities and projects

- ◇ In 2015, WDFW awarded each county MRC \$38,500 for Operational and Project activities, from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

Assist MRCs to measure their activities against regional performance benchmarks.

- ◇ Performance benchmarks were developed by the Coastal MRC work group in 2009 to account for MRC activity.
- ◇ At the conclusion of each state fiscal year, MRCs are required to report annual activities and projects.

Support the coordination of MRC projects to complement regional priorities

- ◇ WDFW reports monthly to the State Ocean Caucus, the group designated to oversee implementation of the Washington Ocean Action Plan.
- ◇ Program staff continues to build awareness within WDFW and with other natural resource agencies regarding availability of MRC volunteers for marine resource projects on the coast.
- ◇ MRCs report regularly on their activities to the Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council to coordinate project actions.

Coordinate and promote interaction among Coastal MRCs, other similar groups on issues of common interest

- ◇ WDFW and MRC representatives continue to provide briefings to county and state officials, the Northwest Straits Commission, the Washington Marine Debris Task Force, and the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council when appropriate.
- ◇ WDFW continues to maintain a website dedicated to the Coastal MRC program providing updates and announcements for upcoming activities with links to current individual MRC websites that contain contact information for county-based coordinators.

North Pacific Coast Marine Resources Committee



Mission: *The North Pacific Coast Marine Resources Committee will actively promote ecosystem resilience through understanding, conserving, and restoring our marine resources. This will be accomplished through research, education, community engagement and advocacy for our shared marine environment and the sustainability of its coastal communities.*

2015 North Pacific Coast MRC Members

Member	Organization	Representation
John Richmond	Jefferson County Citizen	Economic/Scientific Groups
Jill Silver	Jefferson County Citizen	Conservation/Environmental Groups
Ed Ansorg	Jefferson County Citizen	Recreational Groups
John Hunter	Clallam County Citizen	Education/Environment
Roy Morris	Clallam County Citizen	Commercial Fishing
Rich Osborne	Clallam County Citizen	Science
Rod Fleck	City of Forks	Government
Steve Allison	Hoh Tribe	Government
Dana Sarff	Makah Tribe	Government
Katie Krueger	Quileute Tribe	Government
Deb Kucipeck	Clallam County	Government
Tami Pokorny	Jefferson County	Government
Ian Miller	Washington Sea Grant	Non-voting
Vacant	Olympic National Park	Non-voting
Liam Antrim	Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary	Non-voting

Coordinator: Tami Pokorny

Program Highlight: Ocean Science: Trash Free Seas



Feiro Marine Life Center (FMLC) continued to work with education partners to conduct the successful marine life education programs provided to schools in north coast communities. FMLC partnered with the Seattle Aquarium, NOAA Marine Debris, Pacific Education Institute, and the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary to help provide updated *Ocean Science: Trash Free Seas* curriculum to elementary school communities. A total of ten schools participated. The program consisted of four basic components: classroom visits, field trip to a local beach and a field trip to either Feiro Marine Life Center and Olympic Coast Discovery Center or Seattle Aquarium, teacher professional development, and parent/chaperone training.

Photo courtesy of Fiero Marine Life Center

Table 1: 2015 North Pacific Coast MRC Project by Benchmark

Project Name	MRC Award	Marine Habitats	Marine Life	Marine and Fresh Water	Sound Science	Education and Outreach	Coastal Communities
MRC Coordination and Operations	\$38,500						
Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council Representation	Included in Operations						
Ocean Science: Trash Free Seas	\$10,325						
Pilot Study of Micro Debris Accumulation on Pacific Northwest Beaches	\$2,650						
Micro Debris Survey along the Olympic Coastline	\$4,469						
Pathways to Engagement: North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center	\$5,472						
Financial Assistance for Pathways to Engagement: North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center	\$3,250						
Coordination of Two Coastwide Beach Cleanups	\$0 for this contract						
West End Natural Resource News	\$4,500						
Discover the Olympic Coast– A Seal’s Tour Screenings	\$1,657						
Forks RainFest/River & Ocean Film Festival/Finalize Film	\$1,177						



Photo by Fiero Marine Life Center

2015 Project Partners

- ◇ Feiro Marine Life Center
- ◇ Seattle Aquarium
- ◇ Olympia Coast National Marine Sanctuary
- ◇ Olympic National Park
- ◇ Washington CoastSavers
- ◇ Washington Sea Grant
- ◇ North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center
- ◇ Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition
- ◇ West Olympic Council for the Arts

Priority Actions for 2016

- ◇ Continued MRC representation and participation in the Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council
- ◇ Continuing educational partnerships to support the Essential Ocean Literacy Principles and Essential Principles of Climate Change
- ◇ Help distribute the film “Discover the Olympic Coast” to teachers
- ◇ Support science to test COASST marine debris protocols
- ◇ Continue to support annual cleanups of North Coast beaches
- ◇ Produce an issue of the West End Natural Resources News
- ◇ Host the City of Forks RainFest events
- ◇ Continue to collaborate with other coastal MRCs

Grays Harbor County

Marine Resources Committee



Mission: *The mission of the Grays Harbor County MRC is to understand, steward, and restore the natural function and economic vitality of the marine resources in Grays Harbor County for all citizens through research, action, and outreach and education.*

2015 Grays Harbor County MRC Members

Member	Organization	Representation
Al Carter	Ocean Companies	Commercial Fishing
Al Smith		Local Citizen Interests
Alan Rammer		At-Large- Science and Education
Arthur "RD" Grunbaum	Brady's Oysters	Local Citizen Interests
Brady Engvall		Aquaculture
Casey Dennehy	Surfrider Foundation	Recreation
Greg Hinz	Coast Seafoods	Aquaculture
Jessi Doerpinghaus	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	State Government
Eric Delvin	The Nature Conservancy	Conservation/Environmental
Kevin Decker	Washington Sea Grant	Economic
Lorena Maurer	Grays Harbor Community College	Education
Mark Plackett	City of Ocean Shores	Local Citizen Interests
Robin Leraas	Port of Grays Harbor	Local Government
Joe Schumacker	Quinault Indian Nation	Tribal Government
Shad Kearse		Sport Fishing Interests

Coordinator: Garrett Dalan

Program Highlight: Field Trips and Outreach



Grays Harbor MRC sponsored several field trips in 2015 for local schools. Students prepared for field trips by researching topics related to the water cycle and intertidal ecosystems. Classes then were able to go to locations such as Bowerman Basin to look for local plants and animals and learned about their roles within the ecosystem as well tidal pools were they learned about water quality testing and surveyed organisms.

Photo by Emily Egger

Table 2: 2015 Grays Harbor County MRC Project by Benchmark

Project Name	MRC Award	Marine Habitats	Marine Life	Marine and Fresh Water	Sound Science	Education and Outreach	Coastal Communities
MRC Coordination and Operations	\$21,200						
Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council Representation	\$200						
Watershed Festival	\$700						
Grays Harbor Seabird Survey-Feasibility and Scoping Project	\$3,150						
Washington Coastal Cleanups	\$10,450						
Westport Aquarium Marine Mammal Project	\$5,000						
Trash Free Seas	\$0 for this contract						
Field Trips and Outreach	\$2800						



Photo by Garrett Dalan

Priority Actions for 2016

- ◇ Continued MRC representation and participation in the Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council
- ◇ Support the Chehalis Watershed Festival
- ◇ Initiate and promote a speaker series on MRC topics in partnership with Grays Harbor College
- ◇ Continue to support effective marine educational opportunities.
- ◇ Work with Coastal MRCs and Northwest Straits MRCs on state-wide marine efforts

2015 Project Partners

- ◇ Fiero Marine Life Center
- ◇ Westport Aquarium
- ◇ Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
- ◇ Washington CoastSavers
- ◇ Grays Harbor Audubon Society

Pacific County

Marine Resources Committee



Mission Statement: *The Pacific County Marine Resources Committee serves as a steward for the marine and estuarine resources in our county by facilitating science based policies, research, and education that enhance the sustainability of the economy and ecology of our communities.*

2015 Pacific County MRC Members

Member	Organization	Representation
Jeff Nesbitt	Pacific County	Local Government
Doug Kess	Pacific County Citizen	Local Citizens
Michael Spencer	Pacific County Anglers	Recreational Groups
Paul Philpot	Pacific County Economic Development Council	Economic Groups
Tom Kollaesh	The Nature Conservancy	Conservation/Environmental
Kim Patten	Washington State University	Scientific Community
Vacant		Tribal Governments
Tim Morris	Coast Seafood	Aquaculture
Dale Beasley	Columbia River Crab Fishermen's Association	Commercial Fishing
Mike Cassinelli	Mayor of Ilwaco	Cities
Vacant		State/Federal Government
Vacant		Education
Warren Cowell	Shellfish Growers Association	Agriculture
Vacant		Ports

Coordinator: Jeni Maakad

Program Highlight: Grass Roots Garbage Gang



The Grass Roots Garbage Gang held three individual beach cleanup events: January 5, April 5, and July 5. In the three beach cleanup events, more than 46 tons of garbage was collected from the Long Beach Peninsula, and hundreds of people volunteered in the event. There were approximately 1,300 volunteers that participated over all three cleanups. The Grass Roots Garbage Gang is funded again for this upcoming year to continue this project.

Photo courtesy of Grass Root Garbage Gang

Table 3: 2015 Pacific County MRC Project by Benchmark

Project Name	MRC Award	Marine Habitats	Marine Life	Marine and Fresh Water	Sound Science	Education and Outreach	Coastal Communities
MRC Coordination and Operations	\$20,000						
Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council Representation	\$450						
Naselle School Green Team	\$1,450						
Willapa Valley– Raising Salmon	\$760						
Willapa Valley– Protecting Marine Resources and Scavenger Hunt	\$894						
Yellow Flag Iris Eradication	\$3,000						
Grass Roots Garbage Gang	\$3,000						
Science Conference	\$2,500						
Website Maintenance	\$177						



Photo by Ed Darcher

Priority Actions for 2016

- ◇ Continuing MRC representation and participation in the Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council (WCMAC).
- ◇ Continue annual Science Conference, with new up and coming speakers
- ◇ Grow opportunities for local students to experience hands-on marine education programs
- ◇ Continue to provide support and funding for beach cleanup projects

2015 Project Partners

- ◇ Pacific Conservation District
- ◇ Naselle Middle School
- ◇ Willapa Valley Middle and High School
- ◇ Pacific County Vegetation Management
- ◇ Grass Roots Garbage Gang

Wahkiakum County

Marine Resources Committee



***Mission:** The Wahkiakum County Marine Resources Committee’s mission is to address local marine issues; recommend remedial actions to local, state, tribal, and federal authorities; and build local awareness of the issues and support for remedies consistent with the interim “Benchmarks of Performance” as adopted by the Coastal MRC Work Group on January 7, 2009.*

2015 Wahkiakum County MRC Members

Member	Organization	Representation
David Goodroe	Town of Cathlamet	Local Government
Bob Kizziar, Chairperson	Wahkiakum Port District 1	Local Government
Lee Tischer	Wahkiakum Port District 2	Local Government
Carol Ervest	Citizen	Local Resident
Jim Culbertson	Citizen	Local Resident
George Exum	Citizen	Environmental and Conservation
Pat Frazier	Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board	Science
Vacant		Science
Mike Backman	Commercial Fisherman	Economic
Mike Clark	Commercial Fisherman	Economic
Sol Mertz	Business Owner	Economic
Vacant		Recreation
Jeff Rooklidge	Wahkiakum School District	Environmental and Conservation

Coordinator: Carrie Backman Assistant Coordinator: Donna Westlind

Program Highlight: Fish Preservation Training



Grant funds allowed fish preservation techniques to be taught to 33 county participants. Over 750 pounds of salmon from the lower Columbia River were canned during six classes. Participants also learned different ways to use the finished product. These classes were taught by trained and certified Washington State University (WSU) food safety volunteers.

Photo courtesy of Kim Sharp

Table 4: 2015 Wahkiakum County MRC Project by Benchmark

Project Name	MRC Award	Marine Habitats	Marine Life	Marine and Fresh Wa-	Sound Science	Education and Out-	Coastal Communities
MRC Coordination and Operations	\$20,000						
Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council Representation	\$500						
Historic Gillnet Boat	\$4,000						
Elochoman Marina Safety Enhancement	\$4,251						
Fish Preservation Training	\$535						
Pinniped Observations and Monitoring	\$1,400						
Clatsop College MERTS Campus Field Trip	\$175						
Beaver Creek Hatchery Job Showing	\$250						
Hatfield Marine Research Station Field Trip	\$1,189						
Marine Education Field Trips	\$3,000						



Photo by Kim Sharp

2015 Project Partners

- ◇ Wahkiakum County Port District #1
- ◇ Wahkiakum County Port District #2
- ◇ Wahkiakum School District
- ◇ Wahkiakum Conservation District
- ◇ Wahkiakum County
- ◇ Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife

Priority Actions for 2016

- ◇ Continuing MRC representation and participation in the Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council (WCMAC).
- ◇ Work with agencies to meet their monitoring and restoration goals while providing important workforce skill development
- ◇ Continue to provide seafood preservation training to the public with trained WSU Food safety volunteers
- ◇ Grow opportunities for local students to experience hands-on marine education
- ◇ Continue to provide support and funding for riparian enhancement projects

MRC Summit

Thanks to the generosity and hard work of the Surfrider Foundation, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the North Pacific Coast MRC, members of the four coastal MRCs convened for the 6th annual Coastal MRC Summit at La Push on October 15-17.

Hoh and Quileute tribal members, lead by Vie Riebe, kicked off the event with cultural songs, dances, and the story of their people, with Summit attendees even participating in the final dance. A social hour followed at the River's Edge restaurant.

Friday began with a welcome from event organizers, Casey Dennehy and Tami Pokorny, and updates from each of the MRC coordinators. A series of presentations followed beginning with Jennifer Hagen who discussed harmful algal bloom monitoring, followed by Laura Hoberecht who spoke about the Washington State Shellfish Initiative, and Jan Newton described the state of the art ocean observation systems that are deployed off the coasts of Washington and Oregon. The rest of the afternoon was filled by a series of presentations regarding oil spills and response plans. Scott Ferguson began this section by describing the current situation of crude oil transport in Washington and how the state is taking action. Following that were presentations that covered the U.S. Coast Guard's spill response program, threats to sensitive marine species, natural resource damage assessments, and lessons learned from the Exxon Valdez catastrophe.

On the final day, Casey Dennehy began by having a group discussion about new approaches to organizing MRC Summits as the Surfrider Foundation and TNC are not expecting to be able to fully fund future Summits. Several options were identified and planning for the 2016 Summit has already begun in an effort to make a smooth transition. Steven Jefferies (WDFW) then gave a detailed presentation on sea lion populations and management. The group was treated to a bonus as Steven also gave a short presentation on sea otters during the lunch break. Participants of the Surfrider Leadership Development pilot program ran a workshop style session where they presented new prototypes to addressing marine debris and incorporated feedback into their group project. RD Grunbaum and Doug Kess then discussed the proposed crude oil terminals in Grays Harbor, and implored attendees to submit comments and to sign on to a group letter that would be submitted as part of the comment period and also delivered to local elected officials. To conclude the event, a series of presentations about sea level rise (SLR) were given, first by Ian Miller, who gave the current SLR trends on the coast. Julia Sanders with Global Ocean Health shared maps they created for Pacific and Grays Harbor Counties that depicts various SLR scenarios. Lastly, Jodie Toft of TNC showed the group coastal vulnerability assessments that her team has been working on which demonstrates the value of different habitat types and how restoration efforts can improve coastal resiliency.

The agenda and links to all presentations can be found here: <http://surfriderwashingtoncoast.blogspot.com/p/2015-mrc-summit.html>. Photos courtesy of Casey Dennehy and Tami Pokorny.



CONCLUSION

The Coastal MRC Program is well established and enjoys strong support from coastal counties, federal and state natural resource agencies, citizens, and industry and conservation groups. These entities and the MRCs themselves are well aware that in tight budget times, relatively small grants to local MRCs are a cost effective way to ensure that marine resources are well managed, protected, and, where necessary, restored. Providing local groups with funding to support their top priorities sends a powerful message of trust and value in local communities. The carefully crafted parameters of the Coastal MRC Program provide assurance to WDFW and the Legislature that MRCs will contribute to improved stewardship of coastal resources. Through minimal funding for MRC coordinators, the Coastal MRC Program provides essential support to local jurisdictions to continue promoting conservation of marine resources. County-based MRC coordinators report good attendance at meetings and enthusiasm for the flexibility offered by the MRC model. In this way, MRCs provide a positive outlet for citizens to contribute to making their communities a better place to live and work in the ways they choose.

In conclusion, Coastal MRCs provide a non-regulatory mechanism to discuss and develop solutions for issues facing coastal resources and communities, help promote healthy coastal communities through improved infrastructure and sustainable practices relating to marine resources, and complement and support ongoing efforts to improve scientific knowledge, public understanding, conservation and restoration, and management of marine resources. Future coastal MRC work is dependent on continued funding at or above the current level. MRCs are providing a vehicle for community visioning and consensus building, supporting coastal resource-based communities, improving access to marine resources, filling science gaps, improving education, and preventing future resource degradation. MRCs also provide a direct connection between coastal residents and state policy and management related to ocean resources. WDFW is pleased to continue supporting the work of coastal counties and looks forward to working with citizens and local entities to continue building the Coastal MRC Program.

For additional supporting materials, reports, documents and links to individual MRC websites mentioned in this report, visit the Coastal MRC Program Website:

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/volunteer/mrc/>

Coastal MRC Program Priorities and Benchmarks

The following priority statements or operating principles, developed and adopted by the Coastal MRC Program Work Group, are used to guide the development of the Coastal MRC Program and focus the work of the coastal MRCs.

Establish MRCs

- ◇ Establish coastal MRCs in order to provide a non-regulatory mechanism to discuss and develop solutions for issues facing coastal resources and communities
- ◇ Ensure MRC and program accountability and alignment with regional priorities by measuring performance against program benchmarks
- ◇ Act in consult with tribal and state co-managers
- ◇ Ensure that local residents are selected and participate in MRCs

Complement Existing Efforts

- ◇ Complement and support ongoing efforts to improve scientific knowledge, public understanding, conservation and restoration, and management of marine resources

Build Partnerships

- ◇ Coordinate and communicate with MRCs, the Northwest Straits Commission, tribal and state co-managers, local, regional, federal, and other stakeholders and organizations about local and regional projects and issues
- ◇ Expand partnerships with tribal governments and continue to foster respect for tribal cultures and treaties.

Utilize Science

- ◇ Conduct scientific investigations and monitoring efforts to fill key gaps in knowledge about valuable coastal species and habitats (e.g. ecosystem-based management)
- ◇ Monitor and assess impacts of coastal and marine development

Promote Healthy Communities and Resources

- ◇ Promote healthy coastal communities through improved infrastructure and sustainable practices relating to marine resources
- ◇ Promote marine resources stewardship through community volunteer opportunities and public education efforts
- ◇ Promote coastal hazards awareness and community preparedness through education and outreach programs
- ◇ Support the conservation and restoration of coastal habitats and marine populations to healthy and sustainable levels and prevent future state and federal species listings
- ◇ Conduct and implement strategic planning to identify marine resource-related threats to and opportunities for sustainability
- ◇ Assess sources of and reduce marine and estuarine pollution and debris

Coastal MRC Program Priorities and Benchmarks

Performance benchmarks are used by the Coastal MRC Program to account for MRC activities and achievement in discrete but broad categories.

Marine Habitats: Understand, steward, and restore marine, estuarine, coastal, and nearshore habitats, prevent loss, and achieve a net gain of healthy habitat areas by:

- ◇ Enhancing ecosystem and community resilience by protecting and restoring marine and coastal habitats
- ◇ Designing and implementing local and regional projects that restore natural processes
- ◇ Surveying and mapping marine and estuarine resources to better define physical and biological characteristics of marine habitats
- ◇ Making scientifically-based recommendations about management tools to protect marine and estuarine habitats
- ◇ Understanding and evaluating erosion and promoting sound sediment management practices

Marine Life: Understand, steward, and restore marine and estuarine populations to healthy, sustainable levels by:

- ◇ Maintaining the health of marine and estuarine species and preventing further Endangered Species Act (ESA) listings while increasing access to marine resource enjoyment and harvest where feasible
- ◇ Balancing protection focus on ecosystem versus target species
- ◇ Identifying and carrying out actions to protect and restore species of interest and concern
- ◇ Designing and implementing projects to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species
- ◇ Making scientifically-based recommendations about management tools for species recovery

Marine and Fresh Water Quality: Understand, steward, and restore marine and estuarine water quality of Washington's coast and coastal embayments by:

- ◇ Conducting or supporting science to fill critical data gaps
- ◇ Working to reduce the input of pollutants
- ◇ Promoting management actions that would restore degraded water quality and contaminated sediment
- ◇ Working with and training students and citizens to conduct water quality monitoring

Coastal MRC Program Priorities and Benchmarks

Performance benchmarks are used by the Coastal MRC Program to account for MRC activities and achievement in discrete but broad categories.

Sound Science: Collect high quality data and promote its transparent presentation, acceptance, and timely dissemination by:

- ◇ Utilizing established scientific protocols for the collection, analysis, and use of data that support the Coastal MRC Program goal
- ◇ Identifying gaps in data and working to fill those gaps by promoting the development of comprehensive, accessible marine resource databases
- ◇ Promoting peer-reviewed science

Education and Outreach: Promote stewardship and understanding of coastal estuarine and marine resources through science-based education and outreach by:

- ◇ Informing the public about threats to living resources and coastal communities and presenting them with practical measures they can take to prevent further harm, especially regarding land use, erosion control, and individual homeowner decisions
- ◇ Informing citizens and governmental agencies about ocean energy activities and associated effects on coastal communities
- ◇ Coordinating outreach and education programs with other organizations, including local community colleges, and evaluating their effectiveness
- ◇ Engaging the public in active stewardship opportunities through community workshops, restoration projects, and educational programming
- ◇ Translating and disseminating scientific information about the status of Washington's coastal habitats, resources, and communities to regional policy makers, resource managers, and the public in a timely manner
- ◇ Expanding partnerships with tribal governments and continuing to foster respect for tribal cultures and treaties
- ◇ Striving to maintain and improve coordination and communication among stakeholders and all managers

Coastal Communities: Promote sustainable and resilient coastal communities by:

- ◇ Supporting sustainable marine resource-based industries
- ◇ Supporting cultural and economic integrity of coastal communities
- ◇ Encouraging citizen participation in local and governmental decisions regarding marine resources
- ◇ Engaging in activities aimed at hazard prevention and preparedness, e.g. education
- ◇ Increasing sustainable access to marine resource enjoyment and harvest

