



SALISH SEA SHARED WATERS FORUM

November 14, 2019
Four Points Sheraton
Bellingham, WA

OVERVIEW

In 2018, Washington State passed the Strengthening Oil Transportation Safety Act, which requires the state Department of Ecology Spills Program to coordinate with British Columbia and Canada to establish the Salish Sea Shared Waters Forum. The purpose of the Forum is to exchange information to enhance oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response, with the goal of minimizing risks and impacts of spills from vessel traffic in the Salish Sea. The Forum serves as a platform for open dialogue for all levels of government from both sides of the border, including Transport Canada, the U.S. and Canadian Coast Guards, Tribes and First Nations, environmental groups, and industry. The 2019 Forum is part of a multi-year series of forums intended to help advance our collective knowledge about current policies and practices in place in Washington State and B.C., and discuss potential safeguards to protect our shared waters and resources. The forum is a non-voting and non-decision-making entity.

Forum Goal

The goal of this Forum is to exchange information to enhance oil spill prevention, preparedness and response to minimize impact of oil spills to the Salish Sea (the shared waters of Washington and British Columbia). Participation in the workshops does not imply endorsement of any recommendations, additional or modified mitigation measures discussed by participating organizations, speakers or attendees. Instead the forum is intended to advance our collective knowledge about current policies and practices in place and discuss safeguards to protect our shared waters and resources.

Objectives

1. Increase knowledge of Tribal, First Nation, BC, Canadian, Washington State, and U.S. jurisdictions and authorities in maritime oil transportation safety
2. Share information on collaborative efforts underway to prevent and respond to spills
3. Provide an overview of marine shipping in Cascadia region, including changes and trends
4. Include tribal and First Nations perspectives
5. Strengthen relationships and trust

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER/PANELIST
Thursday November 14, 2019		
8:00	Welcome and Introductions	<p>Dale Jensen, Director, Spills Program, WA Dept. of Ecology</p> <p>Laurel Nash, Assistant Deputy Minister, BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Sarah Brace, Executive Coordinator, Pacific States/BC Oil Spill Task Force</p>
8:20	Tribal Welcome	Frank Lawrence , Natural Resource Policy, Lummi Nation
8:40	<p>Session 1: Oil movement Overview – the Big Picture</p> <p>Goal of session: Provide an overview of the current and projected changes in vessel traffic trends; and share updates on current and projected safety and environmental measures.</p>	<p><i>Moderator: Dale Jensen, WA Ecology</i></p> <p>Robert Lewis-Manning, President, Chamber of Shipping</p> <p>Mike Moore, Vice President, Pacific Merchant Steamship Authority</p> <p>Gerry O’Keefe, Senior Director of Environmental Affairs, WA Public Ports Association</p>
10:10	Break	
10:30	<p>Session 2a: Marine Emergency Response Systems</p> <p>Goal of session: Provide an overview of the current emergency response system in the Straits and highlights from recent studies in Canada’s Pacific region.</p>	<p><i>Moderator: Sarah Brace, Task Force</i></p> <p>John Veentjer, Executive Director, Marine Exchange of Puget Sound</p> <p>Jim Hodgson, Research Associate, Clear Seas Centre for Responsible Marine Shipping</p>
11:45	Lunch – Provided	Courtesy of B.C. Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategies
1:15	<p>Session 2b: Marine Emergency Response Systems (continued)</p> <p>Goal of this session: Learn about the existing measures in place now and what is being developed to ensure the highest level of vessel traffic safety, spill prevention, and response capability.</p>	<p><i>Moderator: Dale Jensen, WA Ecology</i></p> <p>Jaimie Bever, Executive Director, WA Board of Pilotage Commission</p> <p>Captain Carl Soderberg, Director, BC Coast Pilots</p> <p>Captain Bikramjit Kanjilal, Director of Marine Development, Trans Mountain Expansion Project</p>

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		Michael Lowry , Communications Manager, Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC)
2:45	Break	
3:00	<p>Session 3: Tribal and First Nation Perspectives about the impacts of oil transportation</p> <p>Goal of session: The Coast Salish Gathering is an affiliation that provides a policy platform for Washington Tribes and British Columbia First Nations, to meet with US and Canadian federal governments and WA and BC provincial governments. The platform builds a collaborative body for mutual shared efforts to identify priority environmental concerns, issues, and projects in the transboundary Coast Salish Region within the Salish Sea biome. The discussion today is to share the impact of oil transportation and the threat to treaty and aboriginal rights, culture and way of life.</p>	<p><i>Moderator: Debra Lekanoff, Swinomish Tribe, Coast Salish Gathering Coordinator</i></p> <p>Ray Harris, Chemanium First Nation; Co-Chair Coast Salish Gathering and Co-Chair First Nation Summit</p> <p>Patti Gobin, Tulalip Tribes, Treaty Rights Office</p> <p>Chief Dalton Silver, Sumas First Nation</p> <p>Tom Ehrlichman, Swinomish Indian Tribal Contract Attorney</p> <p>Melody Allen, Suquamish Attorney</p>
4:45	Key take-ways and Wrap up	Dale Jensen , Director, Spills Program, WA Dept. of Ecology
5:00	Adjourn	

