



Ocean Watch Action Committee Report for Howe Sound Community Forum April 23, 2021

The committee met: October 2, 2020, January 15, and March 26, 2021 (90 mins. each mtg.)

Next meeting: June 25th. Meeting notes, plans and Action Tracker [can be viewed here.](#)

Resolutions received in support of the Committee from [Bowen Island Municipality](#), [Village of Lions Bay](#), [District of Squamish](#), [Town of Gibsons](#), [Gambier Island Local Trust Committee](#), [District of West Vancouver](#), [Metro Vancouver Area A](#).

In addition to representatives of the above communities, participants have also included representatives from the Squamish Nation, Squamish Lillooet Regional District, Sunshine Coast Regional District Area F. Non-government organizations represented are Ocean Wise, David Suzuki Foundation, Marine Reference Guide, and the Squamish River Watershed Society.

Organizer & Moderator: Ruth Simons, Executive Director, Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society

Financial support from: Islands Trust for Secretariate Services.

Note Taker: Bridget John, Research Assistant, Marine Reference Guide (MRG)

There is a common interest among the participants in ensuring marine waters are healthy, and to support and protect marine life and communities from the impacts of climate change.

Objectives of the Committee:

1. Learn and build consensus on collective actions Local Governments can take to advance Ocean Health.
2. Advance actions emerging from [Átl'ka7tsem/Txwnéwu7ts/Howe Sound Edition 2020 \(OWHS 2020\)](#)
3. To review and share updates on each of the recommended actions and strategic plan.

Activities achieved:

1. Development of the [Ocean Watch Action Tracker](#).
2. Updating the Action Tracker with actions underway since 2019.
3. Education and presentations received on:
 - District of Squamish Marine Zoning Bylaw Update
 - District of West Vancouver Coastal Marine Management Plan and the North Shore Sea Level Rise Adaptive Management Strategy
 - Updates on the Marine Reference Guide
 - News regarding Wrecked and Abandoned Vessels of Concern and Mooring buoy regulations and enforcement.
 - Best Practices for Marine Dock Management
 - Overview of DFO's Glass Sponge Marine Refuges Initiative and Integration of Rockfish Conservation Areas.

More information contact howesoundbri@gmail.com www.howesoundbri.org/marine-action-network