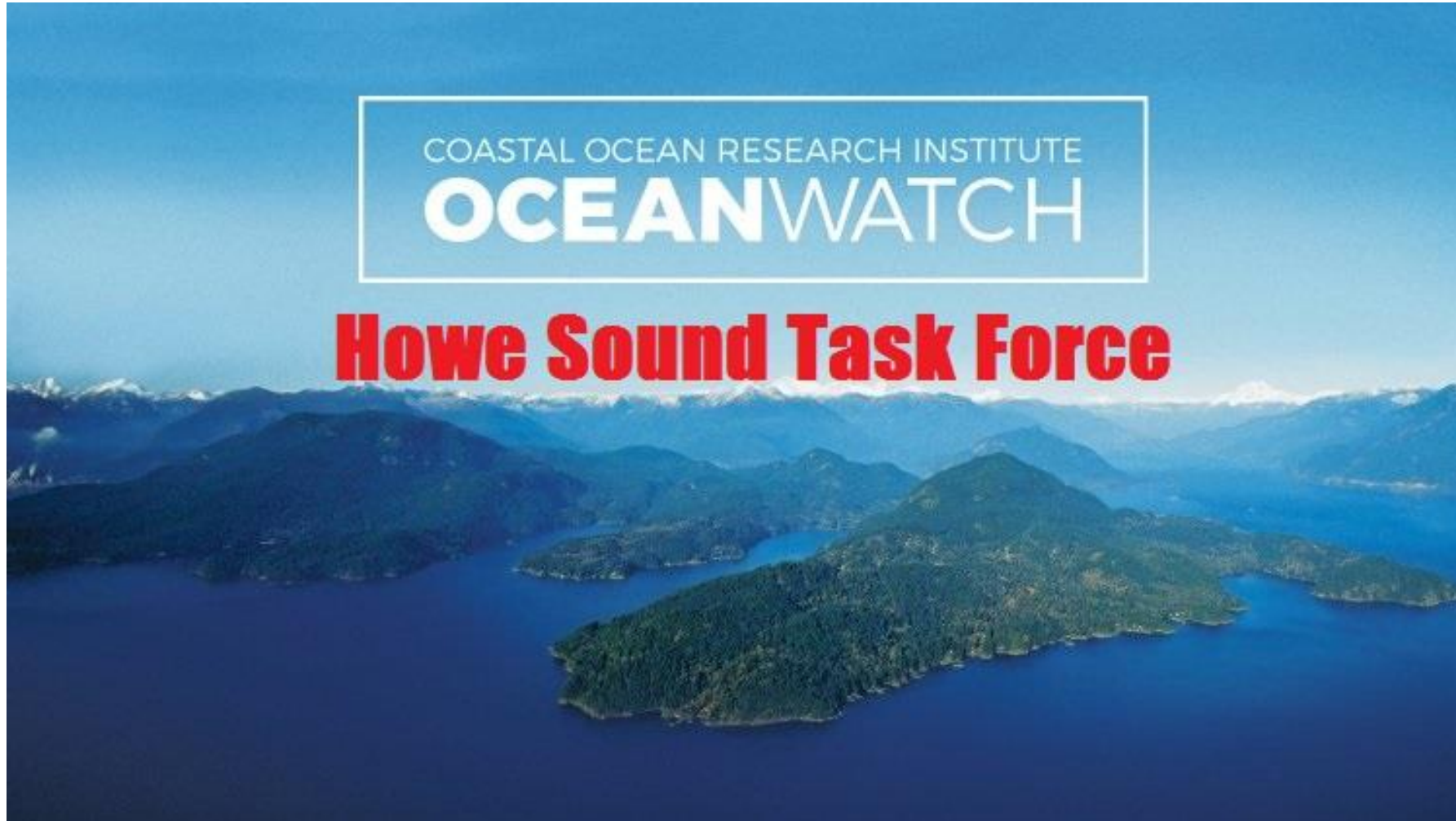


May 2018 Task Force Report – Kate-Louise Stamford,
Co-Chair and Trustee, Gambier Local Trust Committee.



Ocean Watch Howe Sound Summary Actions:

Action 1	Create a Marine Guide that brings together information about the area.
Action 2	Protect and restore priority marine species, habitats, and functions.
Action 3	Track the status and trends of key indicators using science, traditional knowledge, and citizen engagement.
Action 4	Develop a Howe Sound marine use plan
Action 5	Increase awareness, education, and the practice of stewardship
Action 6	Improve monitoring and enforcement of regulated activities in order to decrease illegal activity
Action 7	Negotiate co-management arrangements related to marine resources to provide greater understanding and certainty for residents, businesses and managers

Current status of funding support for the Marine Reference Guide:

Member Community	3 – year commitment
District of Squamish	Confirmed
Town of Gibsons	Support indicated
Village of Lions Bay	Confirmed
District of West Vancouver	Support indicated
Bowen Island Municipality	Confirmed
Squamish Lillooet Regional District	Support indicated
Metro Vancouver Area A	
Gambier Island Local Trust	Confirmed
Sunshine Coast Regional District	Confirmed

Highlights:

- Development of Tracking Table for the Task Force action items by CORI
- Presentation by Steve MacDonald at PSEC, Pacific Science Enterprise Centre
- Three information presentations to local governments by Ruth Simons and Fiona Beaty about the Marine Reference Guide.
- Initial planning funding provided by Moore Foundation for the Marine Reference Guide Project
- Confirmation that Tides Canada has accepted the Marine Reference Guide project.
- Question/answer session with Tawney Lem, Executive Director, Management, The West Coast Aquatic regarding their experience with the Marine Reference Guide
- Development of Marine Reference Guide Project interim steering committee
- Vessels of Concern Workshop hosted by Bowen Island
- Development of interim advisory committee for the Marine Reference Guide as part of the requirements for Tides Canada and to help move the project off the Task Force.

Highlights continued:

1. Vessels of Concern Workshop
2. [Fisheries and Oceans Stakeholder Engagement request re Glass Sponge Reefs](#)
3. [Marine Reference Guide project](#)

Challenges:

- Administrative – process questions, need for minute-taker,
- Participation of Provincial and Federal staff and staff time from different local governments
- Participation of First Nations representatives
- Moving off the Marine Reference Guide to other action items
- Question of ongoing support from local governments beyond this fall's elections



The Ocean Watch Task Force recommends that:

the Howe Sound Forum representatives acknowledge the Ocean Watch Task Force Terms of Reference be adjusted to eliminate the 6 month time constraint as well as specifically include the ongoing technical and other support from the Coastal Ocean Research Institute (CORI), the David Suzuki Foundation and the Biosphere Initiative (HSBRI).

ACTIONS for the forum members to take back to their Councils/Boards to Consider:

Ocean Watch Task Force recommends that Forum representatives support the ongoing work of the Task Force by resolving to provide representation from their regional district, municipality or trust after the local elections this October.



- ✓ West Vancouver for supplying the meeting venue free of charge each month.
- ✓ Heather Keith also of West Vancouver for her note – taking. We wish her the best of luck on her multiple new adventures.
- ✓ The David Suzuki Foundation staff for their commitment to collaboration and patience with the Task Force.
- ✓ Coastal Ocean Research Institute for the incredible opportunities they are supporting.
- ✓ Fiona Beaty who is a force of nature and has done most of the work you see here today.
- ✓ Ruth Simons – For the presentations to local governments, all the follow-up and the important updates from other agencies around the sound.