Ocean Watch Action Committee/Network

Meeting Agenda



**Friday, January 13, 2023 from 9:30-11:30 am**

[**Click here**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84270366314?pwd=aXN6U3VwUUY1Q1NaOGVoNVhOMHk0Zz09) **to join Zoom meeting**

**Moderator:** Ruth Simons, Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society (HSBRIS). Contact howesoundbri@gmail.com for details.

**AGENDA**

9:30-9:35 Welcome and introductions

9:35-9:45 [Review of the notes from March 25th.](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/58c0c358ebbd1a9d3cd1ecf0/t/633a20bba83faa32e63eb1a7/1664753852057/OWAC%2BNotes%2BSept%2B23%2B2022.pdf)

9:45- 10:00 Verbal updates from participants towards the [Action Tracker.](https://www.howesoundbri.org/ocean-watch-action-tracker)

10:00-10:15 Reporting back on Howe Sound-wide European Green Crab Monitoring initiative – Ruth, Courtney and others

10:15-10:30 Highlights from DFO the January 10th DFO-led workshop on proposed amendments to better align glass sponge reef (GSR) marine refuges and fisheries closures with rockfish conservation areas (RCAs) in Átl’ka7tsem/Howe Sound and adjacent inlets (Indian Arm, Salmon Arm, and Jervis Inlet).

10:30-10:40 Events and comment periods:

* [IMPAC 5](https://www.impac5.ca/)
* [Coastal Zone Canada conference](https://www.coastalzonecanada.org/czc2023/?mc_cid=2da1bcb038&mc_eid=fc0a6c87fa)
* [Public comment period for underwater noise and pollution amendment for the Woodfibre LNG Project.](https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80060)
* Feedback period on [Intentions Paper on the Provinces Coast Marine Strategy](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/coastalmarinestrategy/)

10:40 - 10:45 Opportunities for monitoring and research: Guest speaker Loic Jacquemoit will provide a short presentation on:   Putting fjord biodiversity on the map for British Columbia conservation planning

Project of the Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries (UBC) and Hakai Institute
OBJECTIVE: Use Environmental(e)DNA to document biodiversity in British Columbia fjords

Loic is a biological oceanographer and my main research investigates how marine organisms adapt to a changing environment. I use recent molecular biology technologies (DNA/RNA metabarcoding, omics) coupled with bioinformatics analyses to study the diversity and distribution of marine communities and how they interact in marine and freshwater ecosystems. Working as a postdoc at UBC, her current project investigate how eDNA can be used to characterize biodiversity in BC fjords and explore the role of these fjords as critical habitat and refugia for fish and invertebrate species. She is particularly interested on how this technology can be applied to help and guide marine conservation planning and strategies.

10:45 – 11:00 Other news and wrap up.

11:00- 11:30 Informal networking