

Howe Sound Aquatic Forum - Knowledge Gathering - AGENDA

9:00am - 4:30pm, March 27 2015
The Vancouver Aquarium, AquaQuest Entrance

Hosted by The Vancouver Aquarium / Coastal Oceans Research Institute, Squamish Nation, and The David Suzuki Foundation

Facilitators: Jenn Burt (SFU), Karin Bodtker (Living Oceans Society)

Meeting Purpose:

To bring knowledge holders together to identify and share observations, information, experiences, and future knowledge priorities related to the aquatic biophysical features of Howe Sound.

Meeting Objectives:

- Share and document observations about the status, trends, and drivers of change related to biophysical features in the Howe Sound ecosystem
- Share and catalogue available information (published resources, reports, observations, grey literature, spatial data) and identify key knowledge gaps
- Identify and discuss linkages and relationships within the ecosystem
- Identify and discuss priorities, opportunities and specific initiatives for advancing knowledge
- Enable participants to build relationships and connections that advance their work.

Schedule:

8:30 - 9:00 **Arrival; coffee and refreshments provided**

9:00 - 9:50 **Welcome and Introductions**

- Welcome and Protocol from Squamish Nation (Speaker: Chris Lewis)
- Welcome from The Vancouver Aquarium / Coastal Oceans Research Institute (John Nightingale) and The David Suzuki Foundation (Steven Foster)
- Welcome from MLA Jordan Sturdy (West Vancouver-Sea to Sky)
- Overview of the day (Jenn Burt)

9:50 - 10:10 **The Benefits of Knowledge Gathering and Integration**

- Bob Turner (Howe Sound Environmental Science Network) and Colin Levings (Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Emeritus). Looking Back, Moving Forward - the 1991 Howe Sound Environmental Science Workshop.
- Tawney Lem (West Coast Aquatic). The results of a Science and Knowledge Gathering Initiative in Barkley and Clayoquot Sounds

10:15 - 11:10 **Session #1 – Knowledge about Status, Trends, Drivers of Change, and Information**

Participants work within “knowledge theme tables” to answer the following questions:

1. What research results, observations, and information do you have related to status, trends, and drivers of change of aquatic features within Howe Sound? (see Worksheet #1)
2. What information is available for key aquatic features in Howe Sound (literature, datasets, knowledge holders, GIS information, other)? (see Knowledge Inventory Forms).

3. What are some key information and knowledge gaps? (Worksheet #1 continued)

11:10 - 11:20 Working Break: Refreshments provided

11:20 - 12:15 Session #1 Continued

* Note: please visit the “map table” to explore a draft interactive Howe Sound atlas and provide your commentary and feedback on available spatial data.

12:15 - 1:00 Lunch provided

1:00 - 2:20 Session #2 – Knowledge Integration

Participants work in “mixed knowledge tables” to discuss the following questions:

1. Drawing on this mornings’ discussions, what similarities and key linkages exist or have been observed between the status, trends, and drivers of different aquatic features? (Worksheet #2)
2. Is there an overall picture and outlook about the current health of Howe Sound biophysical features that can be summarized? If so, what might a 2015 ‘Howe Sound story’ look like from a biophysical perspective? (Worksheet #2 continued)

2:20 - 2:35 Break

2:35 - 3:30 Session #3 – Initiatives to Advance Knowledge

Participants self-select a table that reflects their interest in a particular initiative (some options below) and discuss how these initiatives could be advanced in Howe Sound (Worksheet #3).

(1) ‘State of Howe Sound’ Report/Assessment, (2) Howe Sound Information Management (Atlas and/or Database), (3) Howe Sound Monitoring Network, (4) Integrated Education and Outreach Initiatives, (5) Future Gatherings and Networking Activities, (6) Compiling and Communicating Aquatic Traditional Knowledge (7) Other Specific Research and Knowledge Initiatives.

1. Why is this initiative important? Who would be the users and/or benefit?
2. What key elements should this initiative include?
3. Who is willing to be involved? Are there currently similar initiatives?
4. When should this happen? Are the upcoming opportunities? Who can lead them?

3:30 - 4:20 Summary of Next Steps, The ‘Howe Sound 2015 Story’, and Calling Speakers

4:20 - 4:30 Thank You and Concluding Remarks