

**Whatcom County
Council Natural Resources Committee**

**COUNTY COURTHOUSE
311 Grand Avenue, Ste #105
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
(360) 778-5010**



Committee Minutes - Draft Minutes

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

9:30 AM

Council Chambers

COUNCILMEMBERS

Todd Donovan

Ben Elenbaas

Carol Frazey

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Todd Donovan called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas and Carol Frazey

Absent: None

Also present: Barry Buchanan

Special Presentation

1. [AB2020-066](#) Report on European green crab found in Drayton Harbor

Emily Grason, University of Washington - Washington Sea Grant, submitted and gave a presentation (on file) on the European green crab. She spoke about how they got here, the current status of the inland shorelines of our region (especially Dungeness Spit, Lummi Bay and Drayton Harbor), why their presence is a concern, how likely it is that they will become more abundant here, and the next steps including expanded detection and removal efforts. She answered questions about whether they are being found in commercial crab traps, their presence on the East Coast of the United States, why the dependence on volunteers is different in Whatcom County than other areas, how close the removal efforts in Lummi Bay are to being up to the scale of that at Dungeness Spit, whether volunteers need a special permit to be able to help, whether a citizen scientist could take a picture and send it in to the University of Washington for identification if they think they see a green crab, whether other groups from the County should be involved, whether green crabs have been found in Birch Bay, and whether there's a possibility that scientists are only seeing them where they are trapping them simply because they are trapping there and not in other areas.

This agenda item was REPORTED.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Todd Donovan, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription