Pune'luxutth' Tribe Marine Use Plan







Summary Report

Pune'luxutth' Tribe is developing a community based Marine Use Planthat identifies the community's vision, goals, and strategies for the protection, conservation, and development of Pune'luxutth''s marine environment. With technical support from the Firelight Group, Pune'luxutth' Tribe has developed a draft Marine Use Plan based on community input gathered over a series of engagement sessions. This report summarizes the vision, goals, objectives and strategies that we heard from you! We look forward to receiving your feedback and

Marine Use Planning

What is marine use planning?

Marine use planning is an integrated, ecosystem-based approach that aims to balance the ecological, social, and economic uses of the marine environment. This approach integrates spatial mapping with community planning to guide decisions for how marine resources should be managed to best meet social, cultural, economic, and environmental objectives.

Benefits of marine use planning:

- Strategically asserts title and rights over marine areas and resources.
- Increases opportunities for economic development.
- Promotes community connection to and understanding of marine resources.
- Facilitates the protection of cultural resources, places, sacred spaces and important species in the marine environment.

Community Engagement

In preparation of the draft Marine Use Plan, Pune'luxutth' Tribe held a series of community engagement sessions between April and June, 2018. These engagement sessions included an open house on April 12, 2018, which identified priorities and concerns for the marine environment. The open house was well attended, with 45 participants and 6 winners for the door prizes. They won either \$100, \$50, or \$25 Visa gift cards. Congratulations to those who won! During the week of May 22 – 24, 2018, Pune'luxutth' Tribe hosted a series of focus groups. We would like to raise our hands to all those that participated and provided their input for the marine use planning process. This input was used to develop a vision statement, guiding principles, goals, objectives and strategies for the Marine Use Plan.

| Project Schedule and Activities | | | |
|---|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Phase | Community engagement | Deliverables | Status |
| Phase I: Pre-planning, scoping, and background research | Kick-off meeting with staff and leadership, and community open house. | Engagement and communications strategy and report back summary. | √ Completed April 12, 2018 |
| Phase II: Marine Use Plan Community Engagement | Community focus groups to develop vision, values, and guiding principles for the Marine Use Plan, with draft policy direction. | Summary report back with a draft vision statement and marine use goals. | √ Completed May, 2018 |
| Phase III: Draft and Finalize the Marine Use Plan | Community verification meeting. | A draft marine use plan, to be verified with the community. | √ Completed October 2, 2018 |
| | | Final Phase 1 Marine Use plan submitted | √ Completed November, 2018 |

Project Outcomes

Pune'luxutth' vision for the marine environment

Vision statements reflect the overarching vision that a community strives to achieve for their environment; they are intended to be an inspiration, invoking hope and aspiration. These short statements describe an ideal, positive mental picture of the future that will guide planning and decision-making processes into the future. The following vision statement was developed based on the vision established in existing Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group (HTG) land and marine use planning initiatives, as well as community vision shared during Penlakut Tribe focus groups.

Draft Vision Statement

"Penelakut Tribe envisions a future in which our inherent rights to protect, manage and conserve our marine resources and waters according to our own laws are respected and upheld. Our marine resources are plentiful and healthy, our beaches and waters are clean and our community and its people are vibrant and strong. In this vision, our traditional knowledge and way of life is cherished and protected; passed from the Elders and knowledge keepers to our young people to ensure that future generations will have the opportunity to prosper in our rich marine environment."

Guiding Principles

Guiding principles can help inform decisions related marine use goals and planning to ensure that actions are consistent with the protocols and vision of the community. The following six guiding principles were identified based on feedback from Penelakut Tribe community members:

Draft Guiding Principles

- 1. Take only what you need of our marine resources for food, social and ceremonial purposes and share the rest with others in need;
- 2. Live sustainably off the waters and marine resources to ensure that marine resources are available for future generations;
- 3. Reduce waste and pollution;
- 4. Improve and maintain Pune'luxutth' Tribe's self-sufficiency; and
- 5. Respect and care for all natural marine resources whether they are used by humans or not.

Draft goals, objectives and strategies

The draft objectives and strategies listed herein have been selected from those identified by previous HTG planning initiatives, based on the concerns and vision voiced by Pune'luxutth' Tribe members. Goals, bjectives and strategies have been updated or added to reflect what was heard from Pune'luxutth' community members during these early stages of the marine planning process. The following recommendations should be used to guide further engagement session discussions before they are adopted as part of the final Pune'luxutth' Tribe Marine Use Plan.

Marine Resources

Goal: Increase the availability of marine resources to the Pune'luxutth' community to ensure that food and ceremonial needs are met.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|---|--|
| Encourage near-shore and intertidal recruitment of harvested species. | Identify zones for closure to the commercial harvesting of depleted resources such as urchins, herring, crab, and shellfish. Restrict commercial dive harvesting in areas that can supply stock for near-shore and intertidal areas. Return harvested shellfish shells to the intertidal zone to increase habitat for settling larvae and promote the growth of local populations. |

Goal: Strengthen and restore the ties between marine resources and the Pune'luxutth' diet, culture, and way of life.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|--|---|
| Establish sustainable harvesting practices and protocols for Pune'luxutth' Tribe's marine resources. | Work with elders and knowledge keepers to establish appropriate harvesting levels and practices. Establish an effective catch monitoring system under the control of Pune'luxutth' Tribe, potentially through a Watchman or Guardian type program. Establish harvesting levels that do not exceed conservation requirements for marine species. Account for cumulative impacts in conservation planning. |

Goal: Promote sustainable commercial harvesting of marine resources in support of Pune'luxutth' Tribe's food needs and economic development.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|--|---|
| Identify areas for leases and/or tenures in close proximity to the reserve. | Identify sites of interest for lease and tenure opportunities for economic development in pursuit of a Memorandum of Understanding with BC. Seek to secure leases and shellfish aquaculture businesses when the opportunities arise. Increase the capacity for reviewing referrals on leases and other tenures of non-Pune'luxutth' people. |
| Establish co-management of fisheries, species and/or areas of interest to increase | Explore community interest in a Joint Fisheries Management Committee between the Hul'qumi'num member First Nations and other governments. |

| Pune'luxutth' | management |
|---------------|------------|
| authority. | |

• Increase Pune'luxutth' peoples' participation and involvement in DFO management plans, including the management of recreational harvesting and migratory species that pass through marine areas of Pune'luxutth' Tribe's territory.

Goal: Maintain and restore the productivity and diversity of native marine species.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|--|--|
| Restore degraded habitats and resources. | Coordinate restoration efforts to more effectively garner funding for restoration and to build capacity. Engage with elders and knowledge keepers to establish traditional values and practices that encourage Pune'luxutth' people to: take only what they need, not waste resources, and work to reduce negative impacts on local species. Seek funding to employ Pune'luxutth' people in cleaning up the beaches and in enhancement projects. Explore the potential for enhancement activities such as re-seeding of clams and replenishment or rehabilitation of species. Monitor marine environments post-enhancement to evaluate programs. |
| Decrease shellfish harvesting closures under contamination concerns | Identify and pinpoint sources of pollution causing shellfish closures. Focus efforts on regular sampling of water quality in highly productive harvesting areas. Establish a community-led monitoring program for contaminated beaches. Collaborate with Hul'qumi'num member First Nations, as well as Environment Canada, and other government staff on training, sampling and analysis of the data. |
| Mitigate, reduce or prevent uses of the marine environment that are harmful to marine species. | Refer to section 6.3 Pollution and Waste Management. Refer to section 6.4 Marine Vessel Traffic Collaborate with local groups, such as Sea Change, to identify and protect sensitive marine habitats, such as eelgrass beds that provide important nursery or spawning habitat. Develop and enforce more stringent regulations to prevent the introduction and spread of non-indigenous marine species. Educate the public on appropriate use of the marine environment |

Access Management

Goal: Sustain and enhance access to traditional marine use areas.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|---|---|
| Reduce alienation of foreshore by private wharfs and docks. | Utilize the Strategic Engagement Process (SEA) to improve the consultation and referrals process when wharfs and docks are proposed within Pune'luxutth' Tribe's core marine territory. |

- Identify and develop strategies for enforcement in the permitting of wharfs and docks in coordination with BC.
- Effective monitoring of environmental impacts of wharfs and docks.

Goal: Manage public and industry access to protect the integrity of cultural heritage sites and traditional use areas.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|--|--|
| Protect and enhance Pune'luxutth' Tribe access to the marine environment. | Work with local parties, such as Islands Trust, in discussions with regional districts and other relevant regulatory and planning agencies to include beach access corridors in new developments. Enforce the maintenance of public access corridors and prevent landowners from denying access. Develop a map of foreshore access routes and rights-of-way for Pune'luxutth' Tribe members. Improve education on sustainable harvesting practices for personal and commercial purposes. Improve education for developers and landowners on sustainable development practices near the shoreline. |
| Eliminate or minimize impacts on the accessibility, availability, and quality of marine resources. | Increase Pune'luxutth decision making in access management issues of private and resource developments in the Pune'luxutth marine foreshore and environments. Secure agreements with private landowners and tenure holders to maintain access to important harvesting areas and cultural sites. Develop clear policies and rules regarding beach access and dock use, including misuse such as dumping of waste. Identify appropriate locations for private docks and areas where docking should not be permitted. Promote public docks where appropriate. Strategically open some beaches to economic development with designated use areas and consider the complete closure of other areas to development as required. Establish community-led contamination monitoring programs at important harvesting sites to minimize the frequency and duration of unnecessary beach closures. |

Pollution and Waste Management

Goal: Restore and protect marine areas so that they are healthy and free of contamination.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|------------|------------|
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| Maintain and improve marine water quality. | Review the guidelines for beach closures and the standards used by DFO to test and monitor water quality. Expand water quality testing and monitoring programs to enforce permits for discharge of industrial and municipal waste. Develop and implement mitigation measures for improving source control and reducing pollution. |
|---|---|
| Reduce waste and pollution in the marine environment. | Develop and enforce more stringent regulations to reduce impacts from waste release by recreational and commercial marine vessels, including contamination and invasive species introduction. |
| | Develop and enforce light and noise pollution regulations to mitigate impacts on animal health, behaviour, and predator- prey interactions in the marine environment. |
| | Explore community support for banning plastic cups, straws, and bottles. |
| | Work with local shellfish aquaculture farmers and other industries to reduce plastic debris. |
| | Promote the revitalization of traditional practices that reduce waste. |
| | Educate Pune'luxutth' Tribe members and the general public about ways to minimize waste. |
| Restore beaches to a pristine and healthy condition that allows for the continuation of cultural practices. | Coordinate restoration efforts with the HTG to more effectively garner funding for restoration and to build capacity. Seek funding to employ Pune'luxutth' people in cleaning up the beaches. |

Marine Vessel Traffic

Goal: Prevent or mitigate adverse impacts of marine vessel traffic on traditional use areas, marine resources, and sacred sites.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|--|--|
| Reduce waste and pollution from marine vessels in the marine environment | Refer to Error! Reference source not found. Pollution and Waste Management. |
| Maintain and improve the health of sensitive benthic habitats. | Identify and map sensitive habitats in which recreational and commercial vessel anchoring could impact marine resources. Prohibit anchoring in select areas where sensitive habitats are present. Develop alternatives to anchoring, such as permanent mooring sites. Develop educational materials to inform skippers, as well as the general public, on the potential impacts of anchoring. |

Goal: Manage the level of marine traffic so that it does not adversely impact the ecological and other natural values of marine areas in Pune'luxutth' territory.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|--|---|
| Reduce or eliminate the impacts of marine vessel traffic on experiential values of key cultural sites. | Identify and map key cultural sites where vessel traffic will interfere with Pune'luxutth' Tribe's peaceful enjoyment and traditional practices. Develop and implement conservation plans for preserving the experiential values (peaceful enjoyment) of marine areas currently, or potentially frequented by vessels. |

Cultural and Heritage Resources

Goal: Identify, preserve and protect traditional use areas, cultural heritage sites, sacred sites, and other features and values with heritage and cultural significance to Pune'luxutth' people.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|--|--|
| Identify and properly inventory Pune'luxutth' archaeological sites and other heritage sites. | Work with community elders, knowledge keepers, and the BC Archaeology Branch (Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development) to identify archaeological sites and other heritage sites throughout marine areas of Pune'luxutth' Tribe's territory. Train a PT community member in ArcGIS or Spatial Analysis to update the Penelakut GIS database for TUS and Archaeological Sites and develop internal TEK community protocol and handbook. Direct regional archaeological inventory research to ground truth recorded site locations and document unrecorded archaeological sites. |
| Protect the integrity and long-term conservation of archaeological sites. | Develop priorities for protection/restoration of identified sites, features or values. Develop and implement conservation plans for identified sites, features or values based on priorities. Develop a policy that will prohibit development or other activities (e.g. sonar map the wakes created by large marine vessels etc.) that would have an unacceptable impact on traditional uses and heritage/cultural values. |

Goal: Promote the understanding and use of Pune'luxutth' Tribe's traditional knowledge in marine and resource management.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|--|---|
| Reaffirm and revitalize Pune'luxutth' traditional uses of the water, cultural | Increase awareness and use of Pune'luxutth' culture and heritage values. Provide educational opportunities, such as culture camps, to facilitate Pune'luxutth' people's learning of traditional practices and resource stewardship concepts. |

| practices, and learning. | Re-establish Pune'luxutth' place names for key marine sites in the region and work with the HTG to promote adoption of these place names in all documentation. |
|--------------------------|--|
| | Provide public education to Pune'luxutth' people and the general public about the importance of marine and coastal heritage sites, as well as the principles needed to respect and protect these special places. |
| | Work with the HTG to develop information for non-Pune'luxutth' Tribe members to learn about the history, culture, and values of the Pune'luxutth' people, such as books, websites and other media. |

Recreation and Tourism

Goal: Assert Pune'luxutth' management authority over recreation and tourism development in marine areas of the territory.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|--|--|
| Manage tourism and commercial recreation activities to respect Pune'luxutth' culture and prevent or mitigate adverse impacts to traditional use areas and historical waters. | Enter into protocol agreements with commercial recreation and tourism operators in marine areas of the territory to promote respect for Pune'luxutth' Tribe's cultural integrity and resources. Explore community interest in establishing a voluntary visitor permitting system and enforcement mechanisms for commercial recreation or tourism operations in marine areas of the territory, including appropriate royalties to enable capacity for effective management of marine cultural tourism resources, Carry out community engagement specifically regarding the management of Tent Island camping site to determine an overall management vision, goals, and strategies to employ Penelakut peoples in management positions of the park. |

Goal: Manage the level of tourism and recreation activity so that it does not adversely impact the ecological and other natural values of marine areas in Pune'luxutth' territory.

| Objectives | Strategies |
|--|--|
| Manage the expansion of commercial tourism and recreation activities to avoid impacts on ecological and cultural values and sites. | Encourage appropriate nature-based and cultural tourism development that benefits Pune'luxutth' people. Provide information for visitors to marine areas in the territory on the history, culture, and values of Pune'luxutth' people, and guidelines for environmentally and culturally sensitive recreation using a variety of communication tools such as brochures, interpretive signs, and signs in general that communicates Penalakut lands. Define culturally appropriate and inappropriate tourism activities and communicate these to third parties. |

- Identify and map site-specific areas where sensitive cultural or other values are incompatible with commercial recreation and tourism, such as burial grounds and sacred sites.
- Identify no-go zones where the public are not permitted, or where development is not permitted (e.g. where plants and medicines are gathered).
- Establish appropriate signage and enforcement for these sites.
- Integrate tourism and recreational values into broader planning and approval processes.
- Consider developing a tourism carrying capacity framework for cultural and nature-based tourism development. Restrict commercial recreation and tourism activities in areas where the levels, type or seasonal intensity of use exceeds carrying capacity.
- Develop site level guidelines and practices for specific marine areas and features vulnerable to impacts from recreational use. Important harvesting areas, such as locations where Pune'luxutth people go clam digging, crabbing, and fishing, should be of particularly high priority.

Marine Protected Areas

Goal: Promote Pune'luxutth' consultation and engagement in MPA designations so that these do not adversely impact traditional use.

| Objectives | Strategies | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Promote the full participation and engagement of Pune'luxutth' in decision makin processes for proposed MPAs | Engage with community Elders to seek input on the development of MPAs (whether they should be implemented), including the selection of sites and management practices if this approach is deemed appropriate. | | | |
| | Identify and map locations that may be appropriate for protection of natural and cultural values, as well as the site- specific restrictions and enforcement on use and harvesting that should apply. | | | |
| | Identify opportunities for Pune'luxutth' Tribe community members and technical staff to be involved in the management, monitoring, and enforcement of MPAs, or other protective measures. | | | |
| | Explore community interest in the establishment of Pune'luxutth' Marine Management Areas created and managed solely by Pune'luxutth' Tribe. | | | |

Goal: Encourage the protection of natural and cultural values that will benefit Pune'luxutth' people.

Objectives

Strategies

If MPAs are established, manage these areas for the effective protection of natural and cultural values alike.

- If marine protected areas are established, clearly define roles and responsibilities for their management in Pune'luxutth' Tribe's traditional territory.
- Establish protections for stationary as well as migratory marine resources.
- Identify effective enforcement practices for protected areas and take an active role in their implementation.

Next Steps

Moving forward in the next phases of the planning process, we recommend that the following actions are undertaken:

- Establish a marine use planning unit that is specific to Pune'luxutth' Tribe and shows the extent of marine use in which Pune'luxutth' has interests.
- Verify Pune'luxutth' Tribe's marine use goals, and management principles. Revise these with input from community members to form detailed, attainable goals, with a specific timeline for their achievement.
- Verify and further develop the detailed objectives and strategies. Include a timeline for implementing these measures
- Identify potential indicators that can be used to measure progress
- Engage with other marine users and invite them to participate in the marine use planning process.
- Develop a decision support tool and coastal atlas
- Verify the final marine use plan and begin implementing strategies for obtaining marine use goals and objectives.
- Undertake regular monitoring of progress. Adapt management goals and plans as necessary in response to changes.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding the Pune'luxutth' Marine Use Plan, please contact Joshua James. A full version of the draft Marine Use Plan can be provided upon request.

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