

Bill Henwood
Project Manager
NMCA Feasibility Study
300 – 300 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 6B4

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Dear Stakeholder:

Upcoming Information Sessions for the proposed Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area Reserve Feasibility Study

Parks Canada is hosting information sessions called 'marine mixers'. You are invited to attend! Read on to find out where the mixers are being held and which mixer date works best for you to attend. An RSVP is requested so that we will have enough appetizers for everyone at the mixers. RSVP information is at the end of the letter.

WHY A MARINE MIXER?

Parks Canada, in cooperation with the Province of British Columbia, is undertaking a study to assess the feasibility of establishing a national marine conservation area (NMCA) reserve in the southern Strait of Georgia. A series of information sessions for marine stakeholders, or 'marine mixers', are being held on southern Vancouver Island and in the Lower Mainland. We would like to extend an invitation for you to attend one of these sessions to learn more about the project and let us know how you would like to be involved.

THE EVENING

Join us for an evening of appetizers and refreshments, accompanied by a presentation and a follow-up opportunity for questions and discussion. Learn how the proposed NMCA may affect your business, recreation opportunities and lifestyle. Find out what we have heard so far from residents and those who work and play in the Strait. Meet and socialize with staff from Parks Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Province of British Columbia, as well as your fellow stakeholders to discuss marine conservation, your interests, concerns and vision for the southern Strait of Georgia.

The information sessions are two hours long. The first hour is an open house format, followed by a presentation and discussion in the second hour. Times and locations of the mixers are outlined in the next paragraph. You only need to attend one mixer.

LOCATIONS AND DATES

VANCOUVER ISLAND		LOWER MAINLAND	
SIDNEY	November 30 Mary Winspear Centre 2243 Beacon Avenue Sidney 5:00pm to 7:00pm	VANCOUVER	November 29 Vancouver Aquarium 845 Avison Way Vancouver 7:00pm to 9:00pm*
VICTORIA	December 1 Blackfish Café (Harbour Air) 950 Wharf Street Victoria 5:00pm to 7:00pm	STEVESTON	December 8 Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site of Canada 12138 Fourth Avenue Richmond 5:00pm to 7:00pm
DUNCAN	December 7 Quw'utsun' Cultural and Conference Centre 200 Cowichan Way Duncan 5:00pm to 7:00pm	<i>* Please note the mixer at the Vancouver Aquarium starts at 7.00pm</i>	

HOW YOU CAN HELP US

We have enclosed a copy of our first newsletter, which provides an overview of the NMCA program and the southern Strait of Georgia proposal.

It would be greatly appreciated if you can assist us in advertising these events within your industry by sending the information electronically or posting a copy of this letter. We can provide an electronic version of the invitation; just send us an email request.

RSVP

An RSVP would be appreciated so we can make sure that there are enough appetizers for everyone. You can RSVP by emailing straitofgeorgianmca@pc.gc.ca or by phoning Bill Henwood, Project Manager, at 604.666.0285. Questions? Please call.

Regards,



Bill Henwood