



**January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
**DRAFT Meeting Notes**  
**Dungeness River Management Team**  
**Dungeness River Audubon Center, Sequim, WA**  
**2:00 – 5:00 P.M.**

*Notes prepared by: Melissa Coughlin*

**Team Members/Alternates in Attendance:**

Scott Chitwood, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Shawn Hines, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Cathy Lear, Clallam County  
Bob Caldwell, Water Users Association  
Virginia Clark, Dungeness/Quilcene Planning  
Cynthia Nelson, WA DOE  
Joe Holthrop, Clallam County Conservation District  
Don Hatler, Sports Fisheries

Al Moore, Riverside Property Owners RM 0 - 3.25  
John Cambalik, Puget Sound Partnership  
Colleen Teevin, NOLT  
Judy Larson, Protect the Peninsula's Future  
Scott Hagerty, U.S. Forest Service  
Pete Schroeder, Riverside Property Owners RM 3.25-4.2  
Paul Haines, City of Sequim  
Robert Brown, Dungeness Beach Association

**Others in Attendance:**

Sheila Roark Miller, Director, Community Dev., Clallam County  
Byron Rot, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Phil Martin, Retired physicist, county resident  
Welden Clark, Dungeness River Audubon Center  
Steve Rankin, Streamkeepers  
Elda Armstrong, Dungeness Beach Association  
Matt Heinz, Dungeness Farms  
Doug Norberg, Dungeness Farms  
George Schuchart, Dungeness Farms  
Robin Berry, Graysmarsh, LLC

Bob Boekelheide, Dungeness River Audubon Center  
Hannah Merrill, Clallam County  
Ken Hobson, resident  
Kyle Guzlas, WDFW  
Herb Armstrong, Dungeness Beach Association  
Ann Seiter, Consultant  
Emilie Carson, Dungeness Beach Association  
Marguerite Glover, Sequim Realtors  
Melissa Coughlin, DRMT Note-taker

**2:00 P.M.**

**I. Introductions /Review Agenda / Review and Approval of December 8<sup>th</sup> DRMT Draft Meeting Notes**

- Chairperson Scott Chitwood called the meeting to order.
- Introduced newly elected Director of County's Department of Community Development, Sheila Miller.
- No changes were made to the December meeting notes. Judy Larson moved to accept the December notes; Don Hatler seconded the motion which was approved by mutual agreement.
- No changes were made to the agenda.

**Public Comment:**

- Robert Brown commented on a point he had brought up in previous meetings, that there has been no permit issued for road access on East Anderson Road. Steve Tharinger had had offered at a previous meeting to follow up on permit status, but that hasn't happened yet. The area under discussion has a steep slope with limited visibility and is around the bend from Schoolhouse Bridge. Kyle Guzlas noted there was a pull-off there, with access to the WDFW parcel. Sheila Miller provided Robert with a phone number at the County to which he could direct his question. Robert warned the issue was one of safety.
- Judy Larson thanked Shawn Hines for the information she e-mailed to DRMT about the presentation at the Feiro Marine Life Center January 22<sup>nd</sup>. There is also an 8-hour class HAZWOPER/ Oil Spill Training on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Judy will send e-mail to Shawn to disseminate to DRMT.
- Don Hatler announced the annual Puget Sound Anglers' Spaghetti feed and silent auction is on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds fund the *Salmon in the Classroom Program*, kids fishing day and fishery scholarships. Scott Chitwood heard that the *Salmon in the Classroom Program* was one of the programs slated to be cut from the budget. Don said that the equipment is already in the building, it wouldn't take any more funding but would need 500 salmon eggs to run the program; hopefully Dan at the hatchery can help with this. Scott offered that the Tribe may be able to help ease the permitting process required to receive the salmon eggs.

**II. Washington Department of Ecology Updates – Cynthia Nelson, WA DOE**

- WRIA 18 Rule-making: There are proposals on mitigation setup and other issues. County and Irrigators are looking for easier solutions to provide water.
  - Tribal Chair, County Commissioners, and Irrigators have agreed to take time off from the formal rule-making process to consider alternate approaches to water management. Including: Larger flow restrictions, revisiting restoration, water conservation and outreach & education.

- Decided to suspend rule-making (rule would apply to new users), while working towards agreements related to the alternate approaches mentioned.
- After DOE proposed the above arrangement, an executive order (moratorium) went forward from Governor Gregoire to review and suspend most rule-making for one year (with the exception of a small list that could move forward with rulemaking). Robert Brown asked how long the moratorium would be in effect. Cynthia said it depends on the local leaders who have agreed to work together on this. Judy Larson asked if the local people working on this have been identified. Scott Chitwood said the meetings have included people from the County (Steve Tharinger and staff), Water Users Association (Gary Smith), and Tribe (Scott Chitwood): efforts have been working around defining a cooperators' agreement, not exclusive – anyone with water management issues will be included. There have been 3 meetings so far, occurring about every 2 weeks. Cynthia said that a parallel effort to complete superseding certificates for the irrigators is also underway.
- Gaging: Nothing new to report. Gages are in place for the year. DOE Environmental Assessment Program sent an e-mail out to watershed leads requesting project suggestions. There is limited money to install gages. DOE is working to schedule a time to consult in the field with the Water Users Association representatives.
- Graysmarsh: On-going litigation that Graysmarsh brought against DOE over SEPA analysis (EIS) for the Water Conservation Plan. Issue is the effectiveness of the plan for water conservation. A settlement has been made where DOE would do additional SEPA work before funding additional irrigation work in area. A related lawsuit against DOE and Graysmarsh has been brought about by a neighbor. Shawn Hines asked for details about the additional SEPA work. Cynthia said that additional SEPA work includes a supplemental environmental impact statement (based on new information). Original SEPA report was finalized in 2003. The groundwater model was developed based on USGS study for use with aquifer and irrigation systems. Major revamp of model, has much improved the groundwater model using new information. This information will go into the supplemental EIS.
- Herb Armstrong asked about staff gages in Pioneer Park (sloughs), where trespass occurs to read them. Cynthia said she knows of no DOE gages at Pioneer Park.
- Cynthia clarified that the stream gages and outtakes are covered until at least June, then need to regroup.

### III. River's End Restoration Update – Hannah Merrill, Clallam County & Byron Rot, JS'KT

- Hannah Merrill told the group that Clallam County, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, WA Department of Fish & Wildlife have been engaged in restoration work at River's End. There were meetings from October – November for the late January – February planting that is planned there. Contracted WA Conservation Corps to help. Trees, stakes, tractor have been procured for work at Rivers' End and Towne Road.
- Robert Brown brought up the continuing trespass issue where there is no granted access to vehicles. WDFW is a member of DBA; Robert said the Tribe is not.
- Byron Rot showed a slide of the 7 species of salmon (4 are endangered) indigenous to the area.
- Byron showed maps of area at River's End – locations on County, and WDFW areas where trees have died.
- First Phase – slide displayed acquisitions to date. WDFW, JS'KT, Clallam County parcels were color-coded. Acquisitions have been funded by SRFB, and WDFW. Pioneer Memorial Park is privately owned by DBA. Structures have also been removed from properties owned by project partners.
- Slide of re-vegetation locations and reuse (moved buildings for use in other places) over the last few years.
- Byron showed flooding of 1949 and explained the December 12, 2010 flooding was worse. Showed picture of 12/12/10 flooding at River's End. Byron had a picture depicting county culverts flushing.
- If the Bradley house had still stood at River's End (it is now being re-used at Pioneer Park), the house would have been in the way of the flood; waters ran through the 1980's river channel. There was a lot of standing water the next day. Flow had possibly been 5,700 – 5,800 cfs.
- Herb Armstrong described how sand had moved from the slough to create an island in the old channel. It is impassable, even when the tide is low. Byron noted fry use the channel. Scott Hagerty asked if they had assessed the plantings mortality. Byron didn't think they lost many. The plants can withstand some flooding and the water didn't stay too long. Byron said they planned to replant all the area that will support re-vegetation (some of the area is salt marsh). The dikes prevent the salt marshes from forming.
- DBA property was pointed out on the map. Access, gates and private property was discussed.
- Hannah and Byron mentioned the various partnerships that had to happen for the restoration project to get to where it is now.

#### IV. WDFW Plan for access on Lower Dungeness Unit – Kyle Guzlas, WDFW

- Kyle Guzlas (WDFW Wildlife Area Biologist) gave a presentation on the WDFW planning process for management in the area.
- Dave Loomis in the WDFW land acquisition division was mentioned by Robert Brown. He was located in Port Hadlock and primarily acquired land in this area a few years ago.
- Timeline: WDFW purchased 148 acres near the mouth of the Dungeness River; Acquisition of parcels began in 2002. Restoration activities were initiated by WDFW, Clallam County, and the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe. MOU for Rivers End restoration was entered into between Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, Clallam County, and WDFW in 2004 and renewed in 2009. October 2010: WDFW entered into a 3-year land use agreement with Dungeness Farms, Inc. October 2010 WDFW finalizes and adopts the North Olympic Wildlife Area Management Plan.
- The North Olympic Wildlife Area Management Plan: The Lower Dungeness Unit – Management Emphasis: Estuary/Salt Marsh Restoration, Riparian and Floodplain Restoration, Freshwater Wetland Enhancement, and Waterfowl Hunting. This plan was effectively signed by the WDFW Director in October 2010 after a number of Citizen Advisory Group Meetings, District Team Meetings, and a public comment period conducted through the SEPA process. This plan can be found online at: [http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife\\_areas/management\\_plans/](http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas/management_plans/). Bob Boekelheide wanted to know why no other “recreational activity” was listed – just waterfowl hunting. Kyle said other activities weren’t excluded, just weren’t listed.
- North Olympic Wildlife Area Citizens Advisory Group Representatives: Clallam County North Olympic Land Trust (NOLT), Jefferson Land Trust (JLT), Trout Unlimited, Ducks Unlimited, Beach Watchers/WSU, Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, Admiralty Audubon Society, Puget Sound Anglers, Eyes in the Woods Organization, Jefferson County Natural Resources, Wapiti Bowman, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, WSU Extension Service, North Olympic Salmon Coalition (NOSC), Clallam Conservation District, Point No Point Treaty Council, Western Washington University/Peninsula College, Clallam County Noxious Weeds, NW Watershed Institute (NWWI), Jefferson County Trails Coalition, and local landowners.
- Robert Brown noted that the DBA had not been invited to any of these *public process* meetings. Kyle didn’t know why the DBA organization hadn’t been notified of the meetings. **DBA will be included in any further meetings on the area.** Emilie Carson asked if, in spite of the recent budget cuts, the WDFW had funds to enforce the hunting regulations and oversee the safety of people using the area. Kyle said they did, and requested further questions be asked at the end of the presentation.
- Planning Integration: Strategy 3.1.2.4 - Manage Waterfowl/Wetlands: Evaluate potential acquisitions and seek grant funds for a viable waterfowl hunting location in the Lower Dungeness Valley. 4.1 - 2010 NOWA Performance Measures: Increase acres of WDFW ownership/ conservation of habitats in the Lower Dungeness and Snow/Salmon Units. Additional acquisitions in this area is a high priority. It is a high resource area with listed species and development in the area.
- “The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) serves Washington’s citizens by protecting, restoring and enhancing fish and wildlife and their habitats, while providing sustainable and wildlife-related recreational and commercial opportunities.”
- Temporary Land Use Agreement with Dungeness Farms, Inc.: Land access lease for approximately 20 acres for 3-year term; neither parcel may be used for any activity that is inconsistent with habitat conservation. This agreement does not limit WDFW’s right to manage its property consistent with USFWS Coastal Wetland Grant (major funding source used for acquisition).
- Mission Statement for WDFW: RCW 77.04.012 – Legal mandate of department and commission: Wildlife, fish, and shellfish are the property of the state. The commission, director, and the department shall preserve, protect, perpetuate, and manage the wildlife and food fish, game fish, and shellfish in state waters and offshore waters. The department shall conserve the wildlife and food fish, game fish, and shellfish resources in a manner that does not impair the resource. In a manner consistent with this goal, the department shall seek to maintain the economic well-being and stability of the fishing industry in the state. The department shall promote orderly fisheries and shall enhance and improve recreational and commercial fishing in this state. The commission may authorize the taking of wildlife, food fish, game fish, and shellfish only at times or places, or in manners or quantities, as in the judgment of the commission does not impair the supply of these resources. The commission shall attempt to maximize the public recreational game fishing and hunting opportunities of all citizens, including juvenile, disabled, and senior citizens.
- Conduct Rules for Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Lands are displayed at the site and include the following headings: Behavior and conduct; Building blinds, tree stands, camps; Commercial use; Groups;

Parking; Pets; Removal of minerals, wood and artifacts from department lands; Domestic animals on department lands; Vehicles using department lands; Field Trial Permit. Pete Schroeder noted that it was contradictory to allow building blinds and cleaning up and removing all camp structures.

- Kyle showed the document, "Lower Dungeness Unit Site Rules" listing site-specific rules.
- Management and Access Planning. Evaluation of Public Use Activities: Waterfowl hunting; Birding; Fishing; Hiking/walking; Watchable wildlife; Dog walking/training. Restoration Activities: Tree and shrub planting; Noxious weed control. Development of Seasonal Restrictions and/or Closures if necessary.
- Kyle said that there was a favorable article in the local paper that notified people of the hunting opportunities now available in the area; this may be why use has recently increased.
- A lot of hunters in area recently, as a new area, there has been an enforcement emphasis. Improved signage in response to concerns of DBA members.
- Migratory Bird Stamp funding will be used for additional restoration in a submitted proposal.
- Currently researching options for funding portable toilet to be located in parking area. A proposal was submitted 2-3 weeks ago. In other areas field trials and hunt tests have paid for toilet facilities.
- Robert Brown read parts of a letter to the local paper from a resident on Twin View Road. The writer claimed that since the area had opened to hunting it had become a "24-hour war zone" and trespassers with night vision goggles were endangering domestic pets. Discussion ensued, some citing the claims in the letter as unsubstantiated. Further discussion on the rise of trespassing, poaching, and misuse of the area since it was opened finished briefly with Kyle suggesting that people witnessing transgressions should call the police. Emilie Carson voiced her concern for the safety of children, hikers, and birdwatchers.
- Bob Boekelheide asked about future management plans for the area. He noted that last fall the large field was mowed; it is the usual winter habitat for sparrows. Kyle said the mowing is part of thistle control. There are 8-9 acres with an abundance of canary grass and thistle that need to be controlled by mowing and herbicide use.
- Herb Armstrong again brought up trespassing and said hunters are coming up by boat at high tide.
- Bob Caldwell asked if WDFW had acquired any shellfish resources with the lease. Kyle answered no. The tidelands are all private.

### III. Other Business / Announcements

#### ***Request for support of letters from Strait ERN regarding oil-spill response and prevention actions***

- John Cambalik spoke about the Oil Spill Task Force that the Strait Ecosystem Recovery Network (Strait ERN) had formed in 2009. A list of prioritized actions had been developed and they are planning how best to implement those actions. He handed out draft letters regarding the topic of oil spill preparedness and response along the Strait which requesting support from Senator Cantwell and Martha Kongsgaard.
- The letter to Senator Cantwell has 4 purposes: (1) To thank her for her actions that led to passing U.S. Coast Guard Authorization legislation; (2) Introduce her to the Strait ERN; (3) Let her know PSP is interested in seeing implementation of any of the provisions in the Coast Guard Authorization Bill; (4) Ask for support for the Makah and DOE's efforts to begin the Makah's Tribe's Office of Marine Affairs and WDOE efforts to train, equip and exercise members of the Tribe's fishing fleet in oil response activities. The letter to Martha Kongsgaard (new Chairperson of the Leadership Council of PSP) has 3 purposes: (1) Support for funding the Makah Tribe and WDOE efforts to establish oil spill response fleet; (2) Continuation of the PSP's Cross-partnership Oil Spill Work Group beyond the sunset date of June 2011; (3) Support of the expansion of the Cross-partnership Oil Spill Work Group to include representatives from each of the Local Integrating Organizations, including the Strait ERN.
- The letters help to take action on 6 of the 14 specific actions. The DRMT agreed to support the letters, and asked that John send the revised final drafts to the Team after the next meeting of the Strait ERN. **[DONE]** Judy Larson made the motion to support the letters with some word-smithing (John didn't promise changes); Al Moore seconded the motion, and it was passed.
- After discussion, revision suggestions from DRMT included: change the text referencing the non-dedicated vessel of opportunity program, inclusion of a request to provide input to regional experts when designing and developing such a program, and removal of the "active member" organizational list from the letter, instead simply describing the diversity of the Strait ERN active membership. Actions in the letters are supported in the Action Agenda and by cross-partnership workgroups that are evaluating how prepared we are to respond to oil spills.

#### ***Shoreline Master Program Update***

- Cathy Lear gave a brief update. There will be four regional forums across the Strait in March: in Sequim, Port Angeles, East WRIA 19 and West WRIA 19 for the whole community at large. (More information to come).

- Targeted and very specific focus groups will take place in January. The first meeting of “no-net-loss” (of ecological function) took place in December. Funding from EPA grant to work out how to handle weaving and monitoring in the SMP. DOE has documented a large set of indicators – it will be determined which can be applied here. Judy Larson asked if that list was available for review. **Cathy said she will send the DOE list to Shawn to disseminate to DRMT. [DONE]**
- Cathy said that early on the ad hoc advisory group asked if they could bring issues to the DRMT. It is the ad hoc group that will wrestle with the time consuming technical review.
- Ann Seiter was at the meeting – she is one of the consultants (functioning mainly as writer) working to compile data from DOE and other agencies to make one useful document. Steve Grey from the Planning Department made it clear that planners need to be able to call on a document to see why decisions are being made when to applying for permits. Jim Cramer and Carol MacElroy will be working on public outreach.
- Inventory and characterization work has begun.
- Hannah Merrill said that documents and notices regarding the Shoreline Master Program can be found at: [www.clallam.net](http://www.clallam.net) search under “SMP”.
- Cathy said that there will be an RFP in the Sunday papers and Journal of Daily Comments for a contractor to conduct the four forums on barriers and solutions to implementing “no-net-loss”.
- Scott Chitwood said he had been asked to ask Cathy about the status of implementation funds and the water conservation program. Cathy replied she had sent out the application for Phase IV implementation funds, but hasn’t heard back. Joe Holtrop had submitted an application for water conservation education and outreach and the Dungeness Irrigation Group water conservation project – Cathy said that was different than Phase IV implementation.

#### **Review of DRMT General Goals, DRMT 2011 Goals discussion**

- The DRMT Executive Committee met prior to the DRMT meeting. They had reviewed the goals and Scott read aloud proposed changes. The Executive Committee wasn’t interested in a major overhaul. Changes were made to make goals more relevant to the DRMT’s advisory role. **(Shawn will send out track-change document. [DONE])**
- Goals and revisions were discussed.
- Judy Larson thought the mission statement, finalized goals and objectives should be on the website, also a list of the agencies, organizations that have representatives on the DRMT. She added that the members should consider expanding membership to include interests of the middle part of the river property owners. At the Executive Committee meeting, including a representative from the Dungeness Meadows Homeowners Association had been discussed.
- **Scott suggested getting comments to Shawn on the Goals and Objectives documents prior to February DRMT meeting. [DONE]**

#### **Public Comment**

- Scott Chitwood and Al Moore commented on the passing of long-time residents/landowners Lloyd and Catherine Beebe. Lloyd died Wednesday and Catherine followed on Saturday, both of natural causes.
- Judy Larson commented how appreciative she was when looking back at the framework for the DRMT. She commented that they are very good working rules to conduct activities in a constructive approach. Scott reminded group that the website has a lot of these documents.
- Scott Hagery noted “Discuss DRMT 2011 Goals” was an agenda topic for today’s meeting. Scott said the draft of possible topics had been generated from December’s DRMT meeting which could be the beginning of a workplan for the year. Shawn Hines said she would like to create a 2011 calendar for the DRMT and reserve spots for various presentations and items that are on the agenda annually. Discussion on various topics: Presentation of flow prediction from Battelle (NASA tools) – **Cathy Lear will work with Shawn to get an update on a future agenda. [DONE]**
- Robert Brown again brought up a concern that follow-up are sometimes dropped. He thought that notes could be reviewed to consider programs/projects that need updates. He used the NASA tools presentation and the follow-up to the permit for River’s End – Anderson Road access as examples. Robert asked about an update for the Washington Water Trust contract in light of the rule moratorium/delay. Shawn mentioned she could start underlining in the notes specific actions the DRMT or members state they will do.
- Pete Schroeder asked about developing a workplan and plug-in topic calendar. Scott said the Executive Committee looks at timely topics, and comes up with who and when they should be presented to Team. They try to line these up as project results are recorded and when presenters are available. Topics largely depend on when presenters are available.

- Don Hatler asked Cynthia how frequently (under the law) is the watershed plan reviewed. Cynthia replied that the law had been amended; the plan did incorporate priorities in the implementation plan.
- Robert Brown asked about the ponds east of the irrigation pipe that might go away (discussed at the Executive Committee meeting). He remembered a field trip with Joe Holtrop at Delta Farms where there was a large pond that would go away with piping project. That pond supported wildlife and provided water when needed. It is one example of a facility that could be used, but is planned to vanish – if that is what the irrigation plan says, maybe the plan should be changed.
- Pete Schroeder asked if there were any provisions for sunset of the watershed plan. Cynthia answered not specifically; it is an on-going effort. There are a number of watersheds in the last years' of funding. Pete asked Cynthia to keep DRMT apprised of any legislation that would change that.
- Hannah Merrill said that with regard to the implementation funds, it would be appropriate for EMMT and DRMT to get together for discussion.
- Cynthia announced the Husseman Grant is out next month, projects to be considered must be restoration projects or for aquatic GIS and the grants are up to \$50,000.

**Meeting Adjourned at 5:00 P.M.**

**Handouts:**

- John Cambalik handed out the draft letter to Senator Cantwell and the draft letter to Martha Kongsgaard .