

Pete Schroeder, Riverside Property Owners (RM 4.25-5.25)  
Don Hatler, Sports Fisheries (alt)  
Michael Blanton, WA DF&W

**Team Members/Alternates in Attendance:**

Cathy Lear, Clallam County (alt)  
Cynthia Nelson, WA Department of Ecology  
Scott Chitwood, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Bob Caldwell, Water Users Association  
Virginia Clark, Dungeness/Quilcene Planning  
Les Jones, Dungeness/Quilcene Planning (alt)

Robert Brown, Dungeness Beach Association  
Gary Dougherty, Clallam Conservation District (alt)  
Joe Holtrop, Clallam Conservation District  
Frank Needham, City of Sequim  
Laura Dubois, City of Sequim  
Judy Larson, Protect Peninsula's Future

**Others in Attendance:**

Steve Rankin, Streamkeepers  
Hannah Merrill, Clallam County & EMMT  
Robin Berry, Graysmarsh  
Elizabeth van Sickle, Property owner/Resident

Bob Boekelheide, Dungeness River Audubon Center  
Powell Jones, Dungeness River Audubon Center  
Valerie Wolcott, Dungeness River Audubon Center  
Melissa Coughlin, Independent Contractor/note-taker

2:05 P.M.

**I. Introductions /Review Agenda / Review and Approve September 9 DRMT Draft Meeting Notes**

- Cynthia Nelson called the meeting to order. Cynthia presided as chair in Steve Tharinger's absence.
- Introductions all around.
- Nothing was added to the agenda.
- Virginia Clark made a motion to accept the minutes from the September meeting, Robert Brown seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Public Comment:**

- Judy Larson asked if anyone knew where she could obtain information on the standard deviation for the river flows. She has noticed an incredible range in the data covering many years (median, mean, minimum, maximum, and current). Would like to know if she can get the standard deviation for any given date. Cynthia Nelson suggested contacting Bob Kimbrough (USGS). Scott Chitwood said Tom McKenna (USGS) sends out calibration data 3-4 times a year in e-mails. Frank Needham suggested Phil Martin, a local citizen, who has tracked daily rainfall over 50 years. Virginia said that it would be skewed and did not recommend using standard deviation. Judy said she just wanted to review the data. Cynthia said that on the Department of Ecology's website there may be a PowerPoint presentation of flows. Powell Jones mentioned the River Center has daily rain data documented in the journal.
- Joe Holtrop invited all to the 50<sup>th</sup> celebration for the Conservation District, to be held at the Guy Cole Convention Center on October 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.
- Frank Needham announced a Low-impact Development forum co-sponsored by the City of Sequim and the Olympic Peninsula Builders Association on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at the Transit Center Building beginning at 5:00 P.M.. Consultants will be there and there will be presentations.
- Judy Larson brought in two books from the library she recommends: Water Consciousness, edited by Tara Lohan and Whose Water is it? Edited by Bernadette McDonald and Douglass Jehl.
- Elizabeth van Sickle brought in two books from the library she recommends: Hold Your Water, by Wyland with Steve Creech and Water Use and Conservation, by Amy Vickers.

**II. Shoreline Master Program Update 2009 – 2012 – Cathy Lear, Clallam County**

- Where does the Shoreline Master Areas apply: The SMA applies to all 39 counties and more than 200 cities that have "shoreslines of the state" (see RCW 90.58.030(2)) within their jurisdictional boundaries. These shoreslines are defined as: all marine waters; streams with greater than 20 cubic feet per second mean annual flow; lakes 20 acres or larger; upland areas called shorelands that extend 200 feet landward from the edge of these waters; and the following areas

when they are *associated* with one of the above: biological wetlands and river deltas; and some or all of the 100-year floodplain including all wetlands within the 100-year floodplain.

- The Department of Ecology administers SMA and has provided funding for the update.
- What do shoreline master programs do? Help local governments avoid or lessen environmental damage as shoreline areas are developed; Reserve appropriate areas for water-oriented uses; Promote public access opportunities; Combine local plans for future shoreline development; Identify areas appropriate for restoration and preservation. Include statewide as well as local policies and related specific permitting requirements.
- Why does it matter? Help protect water quality for our marine waters, lakes and stream systems; Increase protection of lives and property from flood and landslide damage; Protect critical habitat as well as fish and wildlife; Promote recreational opportunities in shoreline areas.
- Robert Brown asked if data from the Army Corp of Engineers will be used for the update. Cathy said the subcommittee will decide that and also decide if Byron Rot's channel migration zone work will be included.
- Clallam County's Shoreline Plan has been in effect for 40 years.
- Robert Brown asked how the plan has been used. Cathy said that it is used when applying for permits to develop along shorelines, permits for removing the dams on the Elwha, and allowing activities during restoration process.
- The general principals haven't changed; it provides for public access and protects fish and wildlife.
- Robert Brown asked if the work will affect any county codes. Cathy expects it will.
- Cathy explained that one of the tasks is to outline in writing where integration will be needed with the entities involved (Port Angeles, Sequim, Forks). The effort will help counties, cities and towns and the DOE to set up a "rainbow chart" which will be helpful in specific planning tasks for desired products.
- The earliest work will be to develop an inventory and characterization of shorelines. Judy Larson asked if the inventory will be comprehensive or cutoff at the line of another jurisdiction. Cathy said there is an MOA with state covering the Olympic National Park, but not sure about the National Forest. The areas involved plan to cooperate and share data to streamline the update.
- Cathy showed the Ecology 3-year Task and Timeline for the Shoreline Master Program Planning Process which described the phases, specific planning tasks, and products.
- Your Clallam contact list: To stay informed: *Hannah Merrill* – [hmerrill@co.clallam.wa.us](mailto:hmerrill@co.clallam.wa.us); 360.417.2563. Process, project studies, and products: *Cathy Lear* – [clear@co.clallam.wa.us](mailto:clear@co.clallam.wa.us); 360.417.2361. Mapping: *Chad Theismann* – [ctheismann@co.clallam.wa.us](mailto:ctheismann@co.clallam.wa.us); 360.417.2239. Ecology's web site: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sma/index.html> (this site has a lot of information)
- Hannah Merrill passed around a sign-up sheet for anyone who wanted to be alerted to meetings, outreach and public events. Cathy said the DRMT will be updated at meetings.
- Frank acknowledged all the hard work that has already taken place, including a videoconference with Jefferson County and Port Townsend representatives where they shared their experience (they are just completing their shoreline plan update process).

### III. City of Sequim Updates – Laura Dubois, Mayor of Sequim, Frank Needham, City of Sequim

- Laura Dubois passed out sheet with Sequim Earth Day 2010 Poster Contest Guidelines on one side and a description of planned events for Sequim Earth Day 2010 on the other.
- 2010 is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original Earth Day.
- Sequim Earth Day Mission: To provide the community with activities and programs to educate and mobilize people for environmental protection and sustainability. It will be held at the Sequim Boys & Girls Club.
- Sequim Earth Day 2010 is a Partnership of: Mayor of Sequim; Sequim Open Air Market (SOAM); Sequim Gazette; Community Organic Garden of Sequim (COGS); Sequim Locally Grown; League of Women Voters, Sustainability Committee; Sustainable Peninsula; Chamber of Commerce.
- Sequim Gazette will promote event and include an insert close to the date.
- Mayor's poster contest: Theme is water conservation – posters due January 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Tentative topics for booths, demonstrations and lectures for April 17<sup>th</sup> event: Waste reduction (Helen Frelich); Water Conservation/Protection); Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (PUD, Power Trip, Battelle); Organic Gardening with Composting Class (COGS, Jack Caldicott); Bird Habitat demonstration (Powell Jones); Local Food demonstration (Nash's); Fuel Efficiency with a low-carbon emission vehicle show (various sponsors). Judy Larson said Protect the Peninsula's Future group may be interested in helping with the water protection topic. Would like to have all topics sponsored by end of October. Laura brought sign up sheet for topic sponsors (organizations).
- Will have different color levels for financial sponsorships: Restoration Green: \$750 +; Sky Blue: \$200-\$749; Earth Brown: \$50-\$199.
- Robert Brown suggested asking for volunteers at the Senior Center to provide staff at the festivities on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Frank Needham updated Team on four of the City of Sequim's current projects, as described below:**

### **Water reclamation facility expansion:**

- About four years ago the City Council, with the help of the Public Works Department, put together a plan for expansion of the reclamation facility to keep up with projected population growth. The work was pushed from starting in 2006-2007 to 2008. The \$11 million plan will increase processing capacity from 800,000 gallons a day of flow to a build out capacity of 106,000,000 gallons/day. Many environmental and ecological issues have had to be resolved along the way. Ground was broken on the project in March/April of 2009, with the expectation of completion in March, 2010. Plan is 85% complete, and currently ahead of schedule. The new aeration basin will go on-line next week.
- Frank showed pictures of the aeration basin with new motor control center building; it is a new way to process waste water. Added a new, number three clarifier which is bigger and has more capacity than the others and allows running two clarifiers at all times.
- Frank showed the construction site for the WWTP lab and job site for 2009-2010 expansion.
- Next planned expansion (will plan in 2012-2014, construction will start in 2017 and be completed in 2019). Will include the replacement of the lab and old maintenance shed, shop area, and pond, growing capacity to about 3 million gallons.
- Being ahead of the schedule saves the city money, gets the planning into place sooner, and more reclaimed water will be put into a distribution system, back into the aquifer, and back into landscaping uses such as watering areas like parks.
- Judy Larson said that there really hasn't been that much reclamation water being "used". Judy stated much has been going to the outfalls, pipes, and a high percentage of the "Class A" water has been put out into the Bay.
- Frank said this week they will be testing in the irrigation system, and be operating on-line. He reiterated that the build out capacity will be 1.67 million gallons per day.

### **Reclaimed water distribution system design grant for Phase 2 scope of work:**

- About two years ago a grant application was submitted to the DOE to fund the design of a system larger than today's. The money was accepted by the Council in September of last year.
- Phase two scope of work has to be rewritten and a new site selection must be determined by staff with DOE concurrence.
- Goals still include: Streamflow augmentation; Aquifer Recharge; Reduce "take" from the Dungeness River; Low impact development.
- The next stage of work before the design process: Pilot test sites must be chosen and must evaluate sites to determine how those sites will work and how to design for those sites.
- There have been difficulties meeting the requirements of other agencies to get different permits needed to achieve the activities requested in the grant. For example: using reclaimed water to replace irrigator's water – issues arose from the DOH and from organic farmers who would then have to label their products that reclaimed water was used in production. It has been a challenge to find ways to get the water into the creeks and streams while still meeting the requirements of State and Federal agencies.
- Met with DOE today, will discuss with consultants and then present plan to council with a revised scope of work. 25% of the funding must come from the City.
- Judy Larson expressed concern that water quality requirements are not being met. Need to review the reclaimed water prior to using it to augment Bell Creek and outfall to Bay. Surviving endocrine disruptors have been found in treated "Class A" reclaimed water. Asked if contractors considered adding wetlands to process to further clean water. Frank said that wetlands will be brought up at the site design and infiltration stage of process.
- Bob Caldwell asked if Battelle Labs could be pulled in for discussions on the addition of wetlands treatment systems to the design. Frank told team that the City and Battelle Labs are currently in discussions.
- Cynthia Nelson didn't think the water rights issue would be difficult to address. Frank mentioned some lawsuits over water rights that are being addressed and also mentioned the Water User groups have been very cooperative.
- Judy Larson spoke to the goal of reducing the "take" from the Dungeness River and asked if the City has currently been reducing the amount of water drawn from the infiltration beds during critical times (August, September, and October). She said it accounts for almost 1/3 of the City's supply of water. Frank said he will get back to the group on that issue.

### **Proposed low-impact development regulatory changes:**

- Frank said this has been a cooperative effort, and the Puget Sound Partnership provided grant funds for communities to employ consultants to look at current codes that address development, particularly employing low-impact practices to new construction.
- Encourages "Best Management Practices" at individual site and requires it at subdivision developments.
- Subject to Council approval – moving towards use of current DOE Stormwater Management Manuals.

- Directing developers to use the Low Impact Development Manual.
- Monday at 5:00 P.M. at the Sequim Transit Center a public forum will be held, sponsored by the City and the North Olympic Builder's Association. Another forum is scheduled for the end of the month which will be a general (rather than sponsored) public meeting to discuss what the code currently states, and what the revisions include. There will be quite a few changes; City is recommending moving from the 1992 Stormwater Manual to the current manual.
- Presentation will look at how the development affects land, water quality and especially the aquifer. Need to convince that there is not much of a price difference when using low-impact practices. Will discuss the work that has been done using low-impact considerations. We want to teach people how and when it makes sense to use.
- Public hearing on November 9<sup>th</sup>.
- John Cambalik (PSP) has been attending many of the county planning meetings.
- Robert Brown asked if landscaping BMPs will be discussed. Frank said maybe in context of reclaimed water use.
- Judy Larson said that if that had been brought up before Wal-Mart was approved to build they could have required Wal-Mart to pay to pipe to west edge of City.

#### **Stormwater Utility:**

- Staff is presenting revised language to Title 13 Stormwater Chapter. Will create a Utility with a baseline rate structure. City has over 500 catchbasins (some have been paved over, some were part of subdivisions), which is a lot to maintain; more than 7,000 feet of perforated pipe (not all connected) is located all over.
- Existing code will be reviewed to see how well City describes what developers have to do. Want it to be easy for the City to keep and maintain after a development is complete.
- Next year consultants will impose rates. General utilities charge against impervious surface. Monthly rate structure: modest monthly fees. Range is from \$2.70 - \$30.00 depending on where you are.
- City will be working to locate, clean and repair all private catch basins.
- Scott Chitwood asked for description of typical catch basin. Frank said a typical one is bell-shaped; the collar connects to the street and holds between 350 and 500 gallons. Haven't had a standard that says we will put in catch basin and gutter. Most often they catch and transfer water to pond. It will be determined what is appropriate for the development.
- Robert Brown asked about DOE approving cisterns for home-owners, there are a number of single-family residents. Have standard cisterns for homes to use water collected for landscaping. Frank said staff has had that conversation informally, haven't talked formally about it.
- Judy Larson voiced her appreciation for all the work the staff has done moving toward this new direction – appreciating the real costs of development.
- Scott Chitwood asked about west Sequim Bay Road – has anything moved forward for the pocket estuary project? Frank said that once they have the sign corrected, they will be moving forward to remove the culverts.
- Judy Larson commented that she had reviewed the updated Water System Comprehensive Plan, "vintage" 2006, (available to public a year after), and was concerned to see daily consumption went from 170 gallons/day per household to 196 gallons/day for a household – which is not in the manner of water conservation. Did they change anything, such as the 1.8 person/household assumption? Frank remarked on the just finished Inventory Report from the City of Sequim. Frank said the City reported on annual basis to DOE, and this year reported 147 gallons/daily consumption per household. Not sure of the contradiction. DOE handles the water inventory report that is sent in. Frank will get and send out to group.

#### **IV. Washington Department of Ecology Updates – Cynthia Nelson, Washington Department of Ecology**

- Rule-Making: Next step is to have the Draft Rule ready for website. However, issues in Kittitas County have put a hold on rule-making work. Developers have been coming in the upper end of basin and a petition for DOE to withdraw from that basin has been sent to the Attorney General. DOE has sent letter to Attorney General and the Attorney General has sent a letter of opinion.
- Scott Chitwood said articles he read said that the number of gallons a person can withdraw from an exempt well can't be limited by DOE. He continued that there are three ways exempt wells might not be limited to 5,000 gallons a day: Potentially an exempt well owner could draw 5,000 gallons/day for residents; 5,000 gallons a day to water ½ acre lawn; and unlimited amount to water livestock. Cynthia said the punctuation in documentation makes it unclear.
- Discussion began on quantities available for withdrawal from exempt wells: is it 5,000 gallons/day for domestic use and 5,000 gallons/day for agriculture, does this mean all uses, or share between the uses, or stack the exemptions?
- Schedule: Should hear back in the next few days from the Attorney General. Holidays may postpone Rule schedule. Advisory committees will meet and draft rule to put on web for a 3 weeks comment period, then the comments from the web will be incorporated and rule will be in review for six weeks within DOE. The Draft Rule could be on the web between Thanksgiving and New Year's. The Draft Rule will be available for public viewing on the web, in the paper, and copies will be made available for people without computers.

- Robert Brown asked if the earliest time for filing is February, 2010. Cynthia yes, and that is when the 180 day process will begin prior to filing.
- Formal filing of draft rule for public comment will happen in Winter 2010.
- Still need: MOA between DOE and County; Guidance document which explains in simple terms to public; Washington Water Trust to move forward with water exchange.
- On 10/22/09 there will be a Watershed Planning Workshop (for the west side of state) in Olympia at the Fairgrounds beginning at 9:00 A.M. To be discussed: status of watershed planning, where we are with funding, and updates on various watershed issues.
- Stream Gage Matrix: State-wide effort to identify all gages. Really a budgeting issue – with cut workloads they may cut back on staff gages. Looking to local folks for local technical transfers. Streamkeepers can download the data from the gages and teach others. This will cut staff time and travel. Elwha Tribe felt some of their gages were not used as much as others; in the Dungeness, a sub-group convened to discuss the gages and determined that all the current gages are important.

#### **V. Other Business**

- Next DRMT meeting is on November 11<sup>th</sup>, which is Veterans Day so Team discussed alternative dates and decided to tentatively meet on Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 P.M. at the Dungeness River Audubon Center.

#### **VI. Meeting Adjourned at 4:20 P.M.**

##### **Handouts:**

- Laura Dubois: 2-sided handout on Sequim Earth Day 2010 & contest guidelines for Sequim 2010 Earth Day poster contest.