

Dungeness River Management Team Meeting

December 12th, 2007

Notes prepared by Melissa Coughlin

Team Members/Alternates in Attendance:

Steve Tharinger, Clallam County

Cathy Lear, Clallam County

Scott Chitwood, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Pete Schroeder, Riverside Property Owners

Mike Jeldness, Water Users Association

Walt Blendermann, Sports Fisheries

Don Hatler, Sports Fisheries

Cynthia Nelson, WA Dept. of Ecology

Virginia Clark, Dungeness/Quilcene Planning

John Miller, Clallam County (DCD Director)

Judy Larson, Protect Peninsula's Future

Joe Holtrop, Clallam Conservation District

Robert Brown, Dungeness Beach Association

Michael Blanton, WDFW

Pam Sanguinetti, USFW

Others in Attendance:

James Karr, Ph.D., Local resident

Carol Creasey, Clallam County

Welden Clark, Dungeness River Audubon Ctr.

Clea Rome, Clallam Conservation District

Steve Rankin, Streamkeepers

John Cambalik, Puget Sound Partnership

Butch Lauritzen, Resident

Eric Jones, Resident

Sarah Jones, Resident

Bob Boekelheide, Dungeness River Audubon Ctr

Melissa Coughlin, Ind. Contractor/Note-taker

2:10 P.M. Meeting called to order.

I. Introductions /Review Agenda / Approval of 12/12/07 Meeting Notes

- Steve Tharinger called meeting to order. Introductions all around. Agenda was accepted with addition of DRMT elections.
- Michael Blanton introduced himself as the new WDFW representative to the DRMT.
- E-mail trouble was discussed. Not all members are receiving the e-mails from Melissa Coughlin. With Shawn Hines return, correspondence will be distributed through her. Membership vacancies and changes were discussed.
- New contact list will be developed – contact Melissa Coughlin with your contact information: 683-1179 or e-mail: mcmarcom@netzero.net. Some memberships are assigned to agencies and groups. Always looking for landowners to apply for membership. Tribe and county sign off on applications. Mike Jeldness added that letters are needed to notify when replacements and alternatives change (formality to document the change).
- 12/12/07 DRMT notes were reviewed. Changes on estimation cost for the Atterberry Reservoir were made along with wording changes in three places. Welden Clark moved to approve notes with changes; Mike Jeldness seconded motion, which then passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

- Butch Lauritzen introduced himself and neighbors Sarah and Eric Jones. The river is sweeping away their properties. Very concerned and need assistance. Butch Lauritzen lives at 166 Kaiser Place. He has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on permits and hydraulic work. Concerned that septic and drain fields will be flooded. Concerned that river will take well head.
- Sarah Jones had been to the DRMT meeting when the engineered log jams were discussed. She was disheartened that project sponsors would not consider locating the log jams upriver at her and other landowner properties. Felt that the engineered log jams would have redirected the river and their flooding problems could have been avoided.
- Suggestions from team:
 - Work with Environmental Health Department
 - Permitting to protect what is there
 - Emergency permits from Department of Fish & Wildlife to dump rock barriers
 - Pre-permit for septic behind property
 - May have to move structure
 - John Miller gave his card to residents for follow up
 - FEMA – may buy out
 - Contact Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (has grant up to the bridge to evaluate breach)

II. Atterberry Reservoir Subcommittee Update – Joe Holtrop (Clallam Conservation District)

- Before discussing the subcommittee update, Joe Holtrop announced that Clea Rome (Clallam Conservation District) was moving on to Tony Ingersoll's position as the North Olympic Peninsula Resource and Development Council Coordinator with the Natural Resources Conservation Service within the US Department of Agriculture.

- Joe Holtrop and Cynthia Nelson were to meet prior to December DRMT to draft letter of support for Atterberry Reservoir project, but schedules did not allow for this. Hope to have draft letter for review at January DRMT meeting.
- A trail was opened up during a field trip with Mike Jeldness, Don Hatler and Ben Smith.

III. Puget Sound Partnership Reorganization Update – *John Cambalik (PSP)*

- The reorganization efforts of the Puget Sound Partnership discussed last meeting is still under way.
- John Cambalik is looking for employment. This is the last DRMT meeting in his present capacity.
- Reorganizing liaison position – continuing to work on delivering at local level. John Cambalik appreciated all the support with letters, e-mails and phone calls.
- Underfunding was discussed: 38 authorized positions and funding for 22-23 positions.
- “Inverted Model” – David Dicks wants to listen to group and build what they need into the Action Plan and go to the agency and say this is what we need. Less structure to find the needs, then technical or other support to disseminate to area.

Working with the Partnership:

- West Sound Watershed Council: East Kitsap, Northern Pierce County, Gig Harbor, all the cities and two Tribes are in the process of signing MOAs to work together to coordinate their work across all objectives and goals, including salmon recovery with the Partnership.
- South Sound has established a working group of multiple Lead Entities working together – they will likely be the group working with the Partnership.
- Hood Canal started their Coordinating Council many years prior to Partnership
- Merit in having a group that can collaborate and speak for the Strait area.

IV. Stormwater: Best Practices – *Clea Rome (Clallam Conservation District) Carol Creasey (Clallam County)*

- Department of Community Development contracted with Clallam Conservation District to come up with a small project BMP (best management practices) manual.
- Clea Rome began her presentation (PowerPoint available on the DRMT website) by pointing out that everything to date is in draft form, waiting for final review round.
- Project funding: \$20K EPA Regional Initiatives Grant; \$14,675 WA State Conservation Commission; \$5K Clallam County funding.
- Dry well has been the primary means to manage stormwater for landowners who couldn't afford hiring engineers for other options. The manual will provide a variety of solutions based on what is appropriate for specific areas.
- Intended to create template(s) for the management of stormwater runoff to help people by eliminating costly individually engineered plans. This was the first project of this kind and there was no prior work to build upon.
- A technical memo will accompany manual. Projects in the manual have limited application, plans are for single family residential areas (no commercial buildings), manual doesn't deal with buffer of critical areas, and it is site specific with low impact development. (Less than 10,000 square feet of impervious service will result from the proposed project).
- Three separate stormwater regions are mapped. Conditions of county with regard to precipitation, topography and soil were identified. Public can access what stormwater region they are in with soil maps that are available at the County, on-line, or in the manual when it becomes available. After they identify their region landowners can look at a suite of BMPs appropriate to their properties.
- BMPs are prepared with 3 categories: Runoff Management; Conveyance; End-of-line Discharge. Plans explain how to capture, retain (and treat in some cases), and then disperse. Example: Rain Garden (Runoff Management) -> Vegetated swales (Conveyance) -> Level spreader (End-of-line discharge).
- Bulk of the manual contain descriptions of each BMP, how to construct and properly implement with the help of their contractor or by the landowner alone.
- Each plan example contains description, sizing, guidelines, diagram, and operation and maintenance for long-term care. Walks landowner through steps for specific management techniques.
- Manual appendix contains: sample forms, maps of stormwater regions, chart of suitable soils and slopes for BMP, plant list, erosion and sediment control and draft sample drainage plans

Questions & Answers

- Pete Schroeder asked if there was a list of alternatives for impervious surfaces. Clea Rome answered that one of the BMPs were pervious pavings. Walt Blendermann recommended that all driveways

should be dealt with as impervious. Discussion ensued on the River Center's impervious driveway, but most driveways are not built like that, and over time they become impervious. Clea Rome: permeable surfaces are engineered to infiltrate over time.

- Robert Brown asked about integration with existing drainage ditches or runoff on adjacent properties. It was noted that the stormwater plan focus was on keeping water falling on a property within the property boundaries and planning to keep any excess water from impacting adjacent areas, including drainage ditches.
- Steve Tharinger commented that the areas around Mains Farm and Dungeness have water runoff issues and may not be totally addressed by the stormwater plan.
- Judy Larson applauded the effort of the manual and asked about an emphasis on storage of water to be used later (in a garden). Clea Rome responded that this was an issue that was struggled over. Per the Department of Ecology, it is prohibited to capture and use rainwater, but some communities are looking into this, may be an option later. Rainwater capture is one of the BMPs in the manual. Cynthia Nelson corrected that technically it is not legal, but that is sort of "theoretical" - rainbarrels and grey water usage are one thing, but large-scale capture and re-use is a Department of Health issue.
- Mike Jeldness asked if the plan addresses any integration with the existing irrigation ditches, especially for any low-lying property. Clea Rome explained that in designing the manual they were careful (from feedback from the County) not to reference the network of irrigation ditches. It mentions inventorying your site for existing waterways. Mike Jeldness noted that it is illegal to discharge any stormwater into the irrigation ditches – people need to understand that.

Carol Creasey spoke on what's next...

- Drainage manual is in internal stages right now, getting feedback from departments (public works, roads, etc.) for useful input for integrated approach. After it is finalized it will be available for public review.
- Planning for workshops in 2008 to inform landowners of the alternatives available to them. Looking at holding one region-specific workshop for each region defined.

Other activities at the County:

- The County has received some funding for the Clean Water District from DOE's Local Government Stormwater Grant Program. These funds will be used for 3 main projects: 1) GIS services and GPS ground truthing to map streams, irrigation ditches and piping, stormwater ditches and piping, culverts, and other stormwater conveyances to inventory stormwater sources and update the GIS Hydrology layer in the Clean Water District. 2) Partnering with the Clallam Conservation District to construct enhanced stormwater ditches (bioretention swales) after irrigation pipelines are buried and assessment of sources and intermingling of stormwater and irrigation water in the Cline Spit area. 3) The public workshops to promote the Small Project Drainage Manual for landowners and also to generate the web-based maps and forms for the manual. These 3 projects comply with the recommendations from the WRIA18 Watershed Plan.
- At the end of October, the County submitted a proposal to DOE's Centennial Clean Water Funds Program for stormwater funding. The goal of this proposal is to obtain funding to develop a strategy for stormwater management through preparation of a Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan for the County. A work group would be convened, bringing together stakeholders such as the County, cities, tribes, state and federal entities, and citizens to produce a Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan. A consultant would be hired to facilitate the process and write the Plan. The Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan would establish stormwater regulations for development, inventory stormwater sources, evaluate stormwater quantity and quality, provide education and outreach, integrate LID practices, evaluate funding sources and capacity, and generate an implementation schedule.
- Additional tasks proposed in the grant submittal were an update of the County GIS hydrology layer for the rest of the County including a request for more LiDAR and a stormwater monitoring pilot project. The County should hear at the end of January whether they were successful or not.
- The county is looking at other opportunities to fund stormwater such as the EPA Targeted Watershed Grants 2008 Puget Sound Initiative Funds and will submit an application to this at the end of January.

V. Coordinating Council: Hood Canal – John Cambalik (Puget Sound Partnership)

- It is important that this watershed planning unit start talking directly with WRIA 17 planning unit about issues on the Strait. Need for constant and better communication between planning units.

- Annual meeting for coordinating council spoke about projects and also about problems determining if compliance of local permitting/regulation were accomplishing what was intended. Difficult to evaluate.
- Hood Canal is separate from salmon recovery efforts. It has federal funding to come up with new technology for testing and modeling and monitoring efforts and projects to improve water quality. Hood Canal Coordinating Council has been around a long time, structured differently than the DRMT. Governmental body of elected officials from two tribes, and three counties give staff direction on how to implement. They don't make decisions on what goes on a final project list. Have a technical review group and citizen group (haven't tapped into the watershed planning group like this group has – just focused on salmon recovery).
- Steve Tharinger read memo from Andy Brastad on coordinating with WRIA 17 on watershed planning. Had handouts "Detailed Implementation Plan for the Quilcene-Snow Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA 17)" available for team. Will schedule meeting with WRIA 17 people and DRMT for January DRMT. Scott Chitwood felt a background component was needed.
- SFBD 2008 Funding Cycle and allocations meeting has been deferred to February. They have separated out allocations for Hood Canal for both Chinook and summer chum. Between now and February discussions will take place on how to better work with Hood Canal on the summer chum and salmon. People have different views – understand that but don't let it limit moving forward.
- Executive Committee discussed how involved DRMT should be in this: recovery and restoration projects only, or should the whole group be more involved.
- As discussed by Executive Committee: Next agenda item (January '08) will be WRIA 17 and Puget Sound Partnership – how DRMT fits in; February: Ann Soule will discuss AR modeling scenarios and Dana Woodruff will present preliminary MST results, Donella Pratt (or Hannah Merrill) may discuss the ACOE levee setback for lower Dungeness; the only topic for the March DRMT will be rule-making, Cynthia Nelson will give an update on process and expanding outreach. Topics for other 2008 DRMT agendas: Carol Creasey will present on rule and water availability; Review of Salmon Recovery Plan; Carlsborg Planning and Development Capitol Plan, grant for construction; NASA Project update.

VI. Other Business

DRMT Elections – All

- Open positions: Chair, 5 committee members (two permanent positions: one must be from Tribe, one must be from County).
- Nominations were opened: Virginia Clark moved to elect Steve Tharinger as Chair, Pete Schroeder seconded; Judy Larson nominated Scott Chitwood, who refused the nomination. Scott Chitwood moved to close the nominations when no one else was nominated and motion passed. Voted by raised hands (unanimously) for Steve Tharinger to chair.
- Permanent positions are held by Scott Chitwood, representing the Tribe and Steve Tharinger representing the County. Cynthia Nelson, Mike Jeldness and Virginia Clark currently hold the open Executive Committee Board positions. Nominations were made by members writing the names of three people on a piece of paper which was tallied by note-taker, Melissa Coughlin. The majority of votes went to Cynthia Nelson, Mike Jeldness and Virginia Clark who each agreed to serve again.

Rule-making Update – Cynthia Nelson

- November Public Workshop was a success. Number of people from various watershed and recovery groups attended as well as some people new to these efforts. Will be reviewing evaluations.
- Planning second public workshop on rule concept, probably to be held in March.
- Will spend one entire DRMT meeting going over rule-making.
- Third workshop is planned for early May.

DRMT 20th Anniversary – Discussion for all

- Virginia Clark and Ann Seiter will work on a press release.
- MOU was signed in 1995.

DRMT Logo Development – Scott Chitwood

- Scott Chitwood spoke to Annette Hanson about the project (logo contest with local school age children). She reported that schools are asked to do this type of contest regularly – requests are administered by the school principal, the request should be summarized on one-page, details should include: size, how many colors, what grade levels participate, what is the prize and the end date.
- Annette's suggestions included: gift cards make nice prizes; include 5-acre school participation; write a press release; January – February is good timeframe for contest.
- Discussed this at the Executive Committee. Considered \$500 for total budget. Includes prize and cost of graphic artist to finish logo.

- Pete Schroeder said that both the Land Trust and Friends of the Field have done this and went to local designers to donate their services. Tribal representation should be part of criteria along with the farm, fish, water, and people.
- Pam Sanguinetti suggested members take request to their respective agencies and organizations for funding for this project.
- Mike Jeldness made a motion for Scott Chitwood to take the lead and take the proposals to schools and back to team, Virginia Clark seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Closing the loop

- Last meeting the broad issue of closing the loop on some of the open issues discussed at DRMT meetings was brought up. Steve Tharinger thought that this is an important issue and should probably wait for Shawn Hines to return to figure out how to track this. If you have an idea on this get back to Shawn Hines or Melissa Coughlin.
- Robert Brown suggested that if there is future action, report back dates should be included so that responsible person has target.

Other Business

- Steve Tharinger reported that last Tuesday the Washington Biodiversity Council rolled out its 30-year strategy for biodiversity with the state. Executive Summary and full document was available for distribution. Very interesting discussion with basic tenant of addressing biodiversity to keep stewards on the land. Major focus on people closest to land will be the best stewards. Incentive-driven mechanisms, ecosystem services are issues discussed. There are layers of bio-regions and bio-risk within the state. Mapping where the richest biodiversity and the highest biodiversity risk are located (e.g. timber land sellout, riparian area developed or destroyed). Debate about maps focusing attention on extremes, but is an important tool. At a county level – currently tax deduction for community value (wetland as example). Maybe incorporate biodiversity benefit. Discussion at County on regulation vs. incentives. 20% of people ignore regulation with non-compliance. Biodiversity as a critical area component.
- Cathy Lear reported that Donella Pratt took a Senior Planning position and Hannah Merrill, formerly of Streamkeepers will be in Natural Resources working on updating the Flood Plan among other things.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Handouts:

- 4 pages of examples specific parcels and soil conditions for stormwater planning
- Report: "Detailed Implementation Plan for the Quilcene-Snow Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA 17) –October 9, 2007"
- Brochure: "Sustaining Our Natural Heritage For Future Generations – Executive Summary, December 2007"
- Brochure: "Sustaining Our Natural Heritage For Future Generations – Washington Biodiversity Conservation Strategy" December 2007