

DUNGENESS RIVER MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

Meeting of December 14, 2005
Notes Prepared By: Tami Breitbach, Clallam County DCD

Team Members and Alternatives Present

Steve Tharinger, Chair, Clallam County	Cathy Lucero, North Olympic Land Trust
Al Moore, Riverside Property Owners	Shawn Hines, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (alt)
Mike Jeldness, Water Users Association	Virginia Clark, Quilcene Planning
Don Hatler, Sports Fisheries (alt)	Scott Chitwood, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
John Beitzel, City of Sequim	Cathy Lear, Clallam County (alt)
Peter Schroeder, Riverside Property Owner	Tom Martin, Am. Water Resources Association
Annette de Knijf, USFW	Walt Blendermann, Sports Fisheries
Tyler Ahlgren, Protect the Peninsula's Future	

Others Present: Welden Clark, Les Jones and Diane Hood.

I. INTRODUCTIONS / REVIEW AGENDA / APPROVAL OF 10/12/05 & 11/09/05 MINUTES

Steve Tharinger, Chair, opened the meeting. Introductions were conducted.

Approval of Minutes

Mike Jeldness made a motion to approve the minutes of October 12, 2005 with the following amendments, and Virginia Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously:

Page 5: Under the DOE Grant Proposals heading, a description should be filled in describing Cynthia Nelson's brief announcement regarding the County's application for DRMT assistance.

Page 5: The 'NASA Proposal' heading is misplaced, and should be relocated below the next paragraph.

Al Moore made a motion to approve the minutes of November 9, 2005 with the following amendments, and Virginia Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously:

Page 1: In the first paragraph under Dike Study Subcommittee Update, the number of public comments submitted after the letter to landowners was sent out was corrected to six, rather than zero.

Page 2: It was requested that Ann Soule's recommendations regarding Stormwater Contaminants/Groundwater Monitoring Study be added to the minutes.

Page 3: The blank spaces were filled in appropriately with the title and description of the Brian Collins report, noting updates by Cynthia Nelson on compliance and outreach related to water conservation, and noting updates of the reregulation reservoir and the Atterbury Road project.

Public Comment Period

Pete Schroeder noted the importance of Al Moore's motion at the October meeting indicating that the Team would draft a letter in opposition to the proposed rezone request. It was noted that the Team did send a letter, and the rezone has since been denied. This item is included further on in the agenda.

II. UPDATE ON HATCHERY WATER INTAKE DAM ON CANYON CREEK – Ron Warren

Ron Warren, WDFW, Region 6 Program Manager, began by indicating that his presentation will be informal. He had with him a JARPA narrative, drawings for the Canyon Creek water intake system, and copies of drawings from the consultant company that has been hired to assist in the project. Mr. Warren indicated that final drawings should be received by December 25, 2005, and they will then actively pursue

permits for construction hopefully in Summer 2006. The project will replace 120 feet of existing pipeline (the intake line) that has deteriorated. A vertical slot fish passage will be installed.

Walt Blenderman asked if there will be any "low level planting" of fish. Ron responded by stating they were in favor of fish naturally finding the Creek. Scott Chitwood noted the project will be very useful for coho and cutthroat. Mr. Warren indicated that the overall project cost is approximately \$750,000 after completed design. Preliminary design of the Dungeness River intake continues at this time.

III. WDFW'S NORTH OLYMPIC WILDLIFE AREA PLANNING PROCESS AND CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP – Dr. Pete Schroeder and Steve Tharinger

Dr. Pete Schroeder began by noting that the WDFW created citizen advisory groups for the various wildlife areas in Washington, and WDFW has realized that the North Olympic Peninsula needs to stand alone in order to create the North Olympic Wildlife Area management plan. The draft plan is due to be completed at the end of this month. Once it's completed, it is due to be reviewed annually. Dr. Schroeder has attended two of the advisory group meetings.

Dr. Schroeder identified the eleven areas included in the North Olympic Wildlife Area, and noted that each area has a description within the report, along with a location acquisition funding, purpose for acquiring, and basic properties listed. Dr. Schroeder indicated that definitions are also provided, and that there is a final section in the report that includes strategies relating to enhancement and management.

Chair Steve Tharinger stated that a visionary document was put on in July by WDFW which called for these regional management plans. Steve noted that, rather than meeting the minimum requirements laid out for the plans, in order for the North Olympic Plan to be useful, it should describe all the parcels within the planning area (why they were purchased, etc), and indicate what the need is for wildlife management. The management plan should be built around that, so that we could see what still needed to be acquired, what is held by other entities, and how to integrate.

Steve indicated it would be of some value for the Team to plug in input to the effect that we feel there is a need for wildlife planning, but we think this current draft falls short of the vision we need when it comes to acquiring land. Steve also indicated that he would like to see a management plan out 5-10 years. Discussion was had.

Randy Johnson indicated that the Plan should reflect that the River's End properties should be utilized as ecosystem restoration parcels, and the vision would be that we recommend to WDFW that the overriding priority for the management of these parcels would be that habitat would be restored and ecosystem processes will be allowed to occur unencumbered by development or other management issues. Steve and others suggested that Lisa Weber and Anita McMillan should attend the January meeting for further discussion of the process and for answering DRMT questions.

IV. DRMT 2006 WORK PLAN

Chair Tharinger indicated that on the back of the agenda are some ideas for the 2006 work plan. Discussion was had.

Suggested Items for the 2006 Work Plan generated during the meeting:

- North Olympic Wildlife Planning Area Process Follow-up (ASAP/MARCH);
- Project status on SRFB projects for WRIA 17 and WRIA 18;
- Results of BOR Dike Setback Study (MAY)
- Summer Chum and Chinook returns for 2006 and Project Plans for 2007;
- At some point early on Selinda should come back and discuss with the DRMT relative to where the LEG and TRG people think that we should be going, and what the goals and approach would be for the next round of funding. Also, where DRMT projects fit into that philosophy (APRIL OR MAY);
- ASR/Groundwater Issues;

- Marine Resource Committee presentation regarding projects;
- Status of the US Forest Service collaborative stewardship project (JUNE);
- Clean Water Work Group Updates (MARCH);
- Review of 2005 Drought Response;
- Noxious Weed Presentation;
- Community Salmon Grant Program Update;
- Water Conservation;
- Burnt Hill / Elk update.

Chair Tharinger indicated that from this point, the Executive Committee will prioritize the recommended work plan items. It was noted that a presentation by Selinda should happen relatively soon.

A break was taken.

V. 2006 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS FOR DRMT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CHAIRPERSON

Chair Tharinger indicated that he is the existing Chair, and that the existing Executive Committee consists of Mike Jeldness, Virginia Clark, Cynthia Nelson, Scott Chitwood and Steve Tharinger. Shawn Hines indicated that the Tribe and the County are automatically on the Executive Committee, and three others would be nominated. Chair Tharinger noted that, though not present at the December meeting, Cynthia Nelson has commented that she is interested and willing to serve as an Executive Committee member.

Nominations of existing Executive Committee members were made for the 2006. Chair Tharinger asked if any other members were interested in serving on the Executive Committee. There was no further interest. The nominations were closed. Al Moore made a motion that the Team maintains the same management structure as 2005. Cathy Lucero seconded the motion. Following a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR OTHER UPDATES

SRFB

Chair Tharinger noted that a funding meeting will be conducted January 2 & 3, 2006, and on the SRFB website there is information showing the review panels' analysis of the submitted projects. Discussion was had regarding the structure of NOPL, and how it will play out with the change in priorities with respect to restoration dollars.

Discussion was had regarding the geographic disconnect of the heavily emphasized populations in the NOPL.

Discussion was had with regard to Federal and State funding of projects with regard to species, and project criteria.

Chair Tharinger indicated that the issue for the next round includes clarifying the roles of the regional recovery groups, and lead entities within those groups. The other issue would be to review the monitoring documents on the SRFB website, in order to be aware of what is being monitored and that proposed projects meets the requirements.

Outcome of Siebert Rezone Decision/Hearing

Chair Tharinger indicated that the Board's vote was unanimous, and noted that work conducted by the Clallam County Planning Commission was very thorough. The proponent did not make a strong enough argument to amend any of the previously voted decisions by the Planning Commission. Further discussion was had.

VII. ADJOURN