

## **DUNGENESS RIVER MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING**

Meeting of June 8, 2005  
Notes Prepared By: Tami Breitbach, Clallam County DCD

### **Team Members and Alternatives Present**

Steve Tharinger, Chair, Clallam County  
Randy Johnson, WDFW  
Al Moore, Riverside Property Owners (0-3.25)  
Scott Chitwood, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Mike Jeldness, Water Users Association  
Virginia Clark, Dungeness/Quilcene Planning  
Don Hatler, Sports Fisheries  
Cynthia Nelson, Department of Ecology  
Hansi Hals, Alt. North Olympic Land Trust

John Beitzel, City of Sequim  
John Cambalik, PSAT, Alt. DOE  
Shawn Hines, Alt. Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Cathy Lear, Alt. Clallam County  
Les Jones, Alt. Dungeness/Quilcene Planning  
Tyler Ahlgren, Protect the Peninsula's Future  
Annette de Knijf, USFW  
Joe Holtrop, Clallam Conservation District  
Scott Hagerty, US Forest Service

### **Others Present**

*No sign-in list was submitted to the County.*

## **I. INTRODUCTIONS / REVIEW AGENDA / APPROVE MINUTES**

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

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of May 11, 2005, were approved with the following amendment:

Public Comment Period: Chair Tharinger indicated that the comment which states that the County does not support the sewer extension should read that the County does support the extension, but that the County has not signed on prior to the concept of the project.

### **Public Comment Period**

Erik Prange indicated that he moved to the area in February 2005, has experience managing water systems, and is currently looking for employment.

## **II. WRIA 18 RULEMAKING UPDATE**

Cynthia Nelson, Department of Ecology (DOE) gave a brief status report and update of the WRIA 18 rulemaking process. She reminded the Team that the Clallam Commissioners approved the WRIA 18 Plan. DOE will be working with planning units over the summer in reviewing flow and ground water reserves. A formal draft rule is expected by September, starting a 180-day clock. DOE is hoping for smaller group meetings in addition to the planning unit meetings. There will be opportunities for formal public comment. There will be at least one public hearing and a formal process for responding to those comments. The rule will be effective 30 days after signature.

Ms. Nelson also noted that the May draft of the WRIA 17 rule received comments from the WRIA 17 planning unit, as well as representatives from WRIA 18. A new version of the rule will

be out on June 10<sup>th</sup>, and will be the version discussed at the WRIA 17 open house to be held on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the John Wayne Marina. This information is also posted on DOE's website.

Shawn Hines inquired about Phase IV watershed planning funding. Ms. Nelson stated that the funding can be applied for at any time, but its use is intended only for writing a detailed implementation plan, not for implementing projects. Funding includes \$100,000 for the first year.

### **III. STATE OF THE SOUND PRESENTATION**

John Cambalik, Puget Sound Action Team, began by indicating that the State of the Sound report provides information about the health of the Puget Sound complex, which is one ecosystem, and consists of shared waters across international boundaries which includes over 7 million people. Mr. Cambalik indicated that the Puget Sound Basin consists of 2,800 square miles of inland water, 2,500 miles of shoreline, and over 4 million people. The Basin is very dynamic, and contains thousands of plants and animal species. Mr. Cambalik identified some species, and described habitat use.

The economic value of the Basin to the US and Washington State is quite significant. About 32% of Washington's jobs have trade associated with the Puget Sound. Container traffic in the Sound is expected to more than double by the year 2020. Mr. Cambalik spoke about the recreational and commercial shellfish industry. The State is one of the leaders in the Nation for shellfish production.

Mr. Cambalik indicated that approximately 50% of the state's recreational salmon are caught in the Puget Sound, and commercial salmon landings for 1991-2000 averaged about 19.2 million pounds per year. Washington state ranks fifth in the nation for commercial fishery value with 64.5 million pounds of fish landed in 2003.

Mr. Cambalik stated that tourism is extremely important to the state, and Puget Sound Basin consists of approximately 80% of the tourism revenue. There is a significant problem with regard to the health of the Basin. Mr. Cambalik distributed the Final Report, which lists 15 indicators that were identified from the statistics and trends, and briefly spoke to the most notably indicators. Within the Report, there are report cards for a variety of topics. Mr. Cambalik quickly reviewed report card assessments of water and submerged lands, habitats, and species.

Mr. Cambalik continued to discuss habitat protection and restoration. Local governments are continuing to update their Critical Area Ordinances and Comprehensive Plans. Mr. Cambalik briefed the Team on the 2003-2004 accomplishments, and indicated that they have held a series of shoreline landowner workshops targeted toward shoreline landowners and which provide information on how landowners can better protect the shoreline and natural shoreline processes.

In closing, Mr. Cambalik indicated that the partnership is making progress to improve water quality, and protect and restore habitat in many parts of Puget Sound. However, the rate of improvement is not keeping up with the rate of decline, so efforts need to be raised in order to improve conditions. Mr. Cambalik stated that the challenge in the future will be to find a way to handle the expected 1.4 million additional people to the Puget Sound Basin. The question is how to accommodate the newcomers, while protecting the Basin.

#### IV. RESPONSE TO SHARED STRATEGY QUESTION F

Cathy Lear began by indicating that Question F is one of the six questions that Shared Strategy asked local watershed representatives to answer. Five of the six questions [Questions A-E], have already been forwarded to Shared Strategy. DRMT has seen a number of versions of Question F, which has been forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners for two separate work sessions. The Board of County Commissioners responded by indicating that the Department of Community Development (DCD) needs to approve Question F, as Question F affects the work plan and budget of DCD. Question F has been submitted to the Department of Community Development, and DCD has met with the Technical Group (subgroup of DRMT) again.

Ms. Lear indicated that as a result, there were two options for next steps:

- Approve Question F as presented to DCD last week; or
- Wait for input by DRMT today, followed by review at DCD work session next Monday.

Ms. Lear referred to Table F-1, and reviewed text that has been added (in bold). Scott Chitwood indicated that the co-managers have had discussion with regard to harvest hatchery elements that may go into the Table, and will forward the text to her.

Mike Jeldness commented on the last sentence on Page 11, under 1.5 Water Resource Management, Comprehensive Irrigation District Management Plan (CIDMP) of the response, which reads:

*“A key technical and policy decision by the Services and the Water Users will be to determine whether the proposed conservation measures will provide instream flows sufficient to achieve fish recovery goals for the river”.*

Mr. Jeldness indicated that if all irrigation was shut down, and everyone moved out of the Dungeness Valley, there would not be enough water to ensure salmon recovery. Further discussion was had with regard to possible text amendment, as Mike indicated the Water Users could not accept the document as written. Hansi Hals suggested the following revised sentence: “Because the CIDMP will serve as the foundation for the Habitat Conservation Plan, a key technical and policy decision....” Mr. Jeldness and the rest of the Team agreed to the text amendment.

Ms. Lear continued to review the items addressed in Question F. Discussion was had regarding Page 2, “Buffers may be increased as high as 300 feet around critical areas containing....”

Further discussion was had regarding adding a phrase indicating that the GMA review was conducted in 2004.

Ms. Lear indicated language would be clarified regarding code compliance examples.

Discussion was had and a recommendation was made to insert wording as a reference to the Adaptive Management Plan. Also, under ‘Additional Continuing Efforts – Continuation of the Dungeness River Management Team’, Page 10, it was agreed that the section would be amended for clarity.

A motion was made to forward Question F to the Shared Strategy with the noted amendments. The motion was seconded. A friendly amendment was made that Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Staff make suggested amendments to the Code Compliance section on Page 5, which may or may not be accepted by the Clallam County DCD Director. Ms. Lear will revise and forward the amended draft to Shawn Hines tomorrow. Following discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

## **V. NASA PROPOSAL**

Cathy Lear briefed the Team on the Draft Project Proposal. Tom Martin, AWRA, indicated that the pre-proposal to manage Dungeness River water resources using Pacific Northwest regional collaboratory tools is out for review by the Team, and is due to NASA on July 20, 2005. Comments or amendments should be forwarded to Cathy Lear. Tony Ingersoll, Natural Resources Conservation Service (and North Olympic Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development Council), is the Federal agency representative, which was requested to take lead on the proposal. Mr. Ingersoll provided an overview of his position with regard to the proposal. Discussion was had regarding the description, benefits and applications of the proposed project.

## **VI. WDFW LAND PURCHASES**

Randy Johnson reported that WDFW has purchased land within various areas of the watershed. The Dungeness River Match Project involves two grants, and is a joint partnership between the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and the State, as well as other entities. Two land purchases have been completed. Mr. Johnson pointed out the subject properties on a displayed map, discussed the project, and reviewed the project schedule.

## **VII. OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPDATES**

### River's End Restoration Update

Cathy Lear updated the Team on the River's End restoration project.

### JCL Ceremony

An official ceremony will be conducted on July 8, 2005, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Those interested in attending are asked to meet in the parking lot of the Administration Building, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, and will be shuttled to the ceremony site.

## **VIII. ADJOURN**