October 13th, 2010
Meeting & Field Trip 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:

Steve Tharinger, Clallam County
Shawn Hines, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (alt)
Virginia Clark, Dungeness/Quilcene Planning
Judy Larson, Protect the Peninsula's Future
Paul Haines, City of Sequim
Pete Tjemsland, City of Sequim (alt)
Pete Schroeder, Riverside Property Owners (RM 3.25-4.25)
Robert Caldwell, Water Users Association
Robert Brown, Dungeness Beach Association
Colleen Teevin, NOLT
Lorenz Sollmann, Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge

Others in Attendance:

Randy Johnson, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Eric Adams, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Hannah Merrill, Clallam County
Steve Rankin, Streamkeepers
Valerie Wolcott , Dungeness River Audubon Center
Welden Clark, Dungeness River Audubon Ctr.
Melissa Coughlin, Independent Contractor/note-taker

2:00 P.M.

I. Introductions /Review Agenda / Review and Approval of August 11th DRMT Draft Meeting Notes

- Pete Schroeder called the meeting to order (Chair Tharinger arrived later). Introductions all around.
- Robert Brown said he had e-mailed Shawn regarding adding to the notes some comments made by Cynthia at the last meeting, specifically regarding Ecology's plans for reading and posting data from the metering gauges for new wells. Shawn reiterated that since the changes were in regards to comments by Cynthia, Cynthia should be present to respond. Cynthia is not able to attend today's meeting. Melissa said she would contact Cynthia and include her response in the next meeting notes.
  [Response from Cynthia Nelson: If Ecology requires exempt well metering in Clallam County it would be Ecology and the property owner's responsibility to meter not the county. (We're not talking about the whole county, only the Dungeness watershed.]
- Judy Larson made a motion to accept the minutes from the August 11th DRMT meeting, with additional information from Cynthia (adjusting the second bullet on the third page), Robert Brown seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Colleen Teevin introduced herself as the new representative from North Olympic Land Trust. She is the farmland conservation and development specialist. After some paperwork she will be the DRMT member representative from NOLT.
- Paul Haines from the City of Sequim was introduced. He has a background in water resources and is a licensed Civil Engineer having worked in both the private and public sectors. Paul has worked since April for the City of Sequim as the Public Works Director. He intends to regularly participate at the DRMT meetings.
- Paul Tjemsland has worked for the City of Sequim for 22 years and is the Utilities Manager for the City of Sequim. Pete has been the alternate representative for the City of Sequim.

Public Comment:

- None at this time.

II. Updates/Announcements

Department of Ecology Updates:

- Cynthia Nelson is sick and so no DOE updates were given at this meeting.

Shoreline Master Program Update:

- Hannah Merrill informed the DRMT that a consultant, ESA Adolphson, had been hired along with a number of other consultants (Ann Seiter, Jim Johannessen, Jim Kramer, and Carol MacIlroy) to work with Project Manager, Margaret Clancy, on the SMP update.
- The EPA grant requires "no-net-loss" of ecological functions be a component in all the activities.
- Outreach and public participation has been planned. There has been a booth at the River Festival, Crab Festival and at StreamFest.
- Hannah handed out two project matrixes: (1) "Clallam County Shoreline Plans, Reports, Articles, etc." and listing of (2) "Clallam County Shores of the State Restoration Work". Hannah said that she had compiled the lists so that people could review and comment on any projects that may have been overlooked. She needs feedback as they will be calling out the most important items for the consultants to review. The smaller list of

restoration projects (2) needs feedback on the correct status of the projects. She would also like to be notified of any other projects that aren't currently on the list, but should be on the list. (The list was taken from the list of projects on the North Olympic Lead Entity 3-year plan). Hannah will add columns as needed. She needs to know about any projects that are planned on the shorelines of the State. Information should be as specific as possible.

- EMMT and DRMT members have been asked to review the handouts from Hannah and comment on any project that needs updating or on any projects that need to be included. Also needed are remarks on any restoration works, planned, projected or other status for shorelines of the Strait. Please add information or clarify where needed. The handouts are available electronically.
- The SMP was first developed in the 1970's and was updated in 1992. Sequim has 2 miles of shoreline; Port Angeles 6 miles of shoreline; and Forks has 4 miles of shoreline. There are 784 miles of shoreline that is considered the responsibility of the County (this doesn't include federal or tribal land).
- Robert Brown asked about the schedule for the SMP update. Hannah said there is a schedule as part of the public participation plan, but she will get the revised schedule out.
- Jefferson County has finished with their update; it is in the public comment period. Hundreds of comments go to DOE and are addressed and then the SMP will be submitted to the DOE for approval.
- Robert Brown asked if all of the River End's parcels are property of DNR. Steve Tharinger remarked that there are at least 4 parcels that remain County properties.

III. PowerPoint Preview of Washington Harbor Restoration Project (Field Trip Stop #2) – Randy Johnson, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

- A SFBD grant was awarded to the Tribe for the design of a restoration project for Washington Harbor. Washington Harbor is at the entrance to Sequim Bay.
- Randy said a pocket estuary similar to that at Washington Harbor has been studied (at Skagit) where juvenile summer chum and wild Chinook thrive with the resources of a pocket estuary.
- There has been extensive restoration work at Jimmycomelately Creek and 4,000 adult salmon have been counted (as a result of the creek restoration and wild production). Chimicum Creek is also a success story with regard to fish population as a result of habitat restoration work (1,000 adult spawners counted the last few years).
- Randy showed a map of Jimmycomelately Creek entering Sequim Bay and pointed out Chicken Coop Pocket Estuary (3 miles up from Jimmycomelately Creek), Paradise Cove Pocket Estuary and Washington Harbor with Pitship Pocket Estuary (5 miles up from Jimmycomelately Creek).
- Chinook like the marsh habitat of Washington Harbor and the Pitship Pocket Estuary. The roadway across created problems for fish access. At Pitship the culvert was replaced by a bridge (this was finished at the end of January, 2010).
- Randy then showed the illustration of Washington Harbor in 1870 and the current design project for 6' culverts. The causeway was built in the 1960's. The area has narrowed by 28% over time, resulting in loss of tidal energy. The causeway impairs habitat connectivity for salmon and disrupts habitat wealth (habitat forming process with of sediment, wood movement and exchange of nutrients).
- With the SRFB grant the problems can be studied and design concepts to fix them can be developed.
- Landowner map was shown: Battelle, Burrows family, Pitship Duck Club, and Stephen Clapp are landowners.
- Existing conditions: approximately 37 acres with impaired estuary functions. Design Team proposed 3 alternatives: (1) 78' bridge will restore water hydrology, won't be higher on one side, minimal work. Doesn't involve restoration of any habitat forming process. Estimated cost: $565,000. (2) 562' bridge will restore water hydrology, in addition to fixing connectivity (with habitat restoration) but not necessarily all of it. Estimated cost: $1,594,000. (3) 762' bridge will fix all, get habitat back to a stable trajectory for the evolution of feature and processes. Estimated cost: $2,197,000.
- Tribe, local WA DFW, City of Sequim, landowners (excluding Clapp), NOPLE, various salmon interests are all local stakeholders working with design consultants. DNR is not participating; Pete Tjemsland said that DNR is responsible for shoreline, not the causeway.
- Bob Caldwell asked about the bridge: Randy said it will carry vehicular, equestrian, bicycling, etc. traffic and the outfall line will be buried.
- Pete Schroeder asked if they could propose an alternative where the berm and causeway was removed and the outfall buried, but Randy said the City of Sequim and the landowners need access.
- Of the three alternatives, the 762' bridge was the most popular. The Tribe has selected the option with the 562' bridge. Less expense and the landowners preferred it over the longer bridge.

- Final engineering stage is about to begin, working on some grant applications, need some construction money. Hope to build in 2012. The final bridge will be close to 600' and price will probably go up.

IV. City of Sequim Introductions and Update on Select Projects (Field Trip stop 1 and Field Trip stop 3) – Paul Haines and Pete Tjemsland, City of Sequim

- Paul Haines handed out brochures that were created for the ribbon-cutting ceremony on the new water reclamation facility. The new facility has been developed for another level of treatment and growth. There is enough capacity to double the flow to reach the plant.
- The plan for the facility was developed during a time of increased expansion in the area, which has now slowed down a lot. The plant was built for 10-20 years capacity at a time of high growth.
- The Sequim City Council has told staff to be aware of other populations/areas that may be able to utilize the excess capacity.
- Working on a grant to see how to best use the state-of-the-art effluent and solids that are generated. There are agricultural purposes, groundwater infusion and infiltration to consider.
- They have identified one site at an area north of Carrie Blake Park as an infiltration site.
- Considering "purple pipe" around a portion of the city, a loop system that can make water available for purchase to help pay for the reclaimed water. May develop a grid system for users.
- Looking ahead to 2011 Water & Sewer projects: For Sequim and region: Battelle's water and sewer needs (for growth and expansion) Battelle has their own septic and artesian well. When that is at limit - looking to connect with sewer and water. Capacity for growth and utilities available.
- Judy Larson asked if plant will be able to treat any exotic by-product from Lab. Paul H. said there is an obligation to pre-treat. Must deliver water that can be treated.
- Pete Schroeder asked if water is pathogen-free. Pete Tjemsland answered that it is treated for total coloforms, and most eco-coloforms. UV sterilization is a high degree of treatment used before leaving plant.
- Pharmaceuticals and various contaminants were named and asked about. Paul said that labels and certifications declare safe by standards with current conditions of use.
- Paul talked about Battelle research into using algae that strips water and turns it into a bio-fuel.
- Electro-coagulation takes out metals and other disrupters. There are daily monitoring devices, daily checks to change UV lights.
- Looking at reservoir storing for supply and demand. Reservoir Road has a ½ gallon reservoir that isn't being used.
- Biosolids distribution for agriculture, looking at different areas for use.
- Judy Larson asked how much of the reclaimed is actually being used, and how much is actually going out to the outfall? Pete Tjemsland answered that 20% is used year-round.
- Judy voiced her concern about testing the plant for nitrogen ammonia. Pete T. said that DOE is letting the plant settle and then will test.
- *Water*: currently looking at all water rights and availability to use in long-range planning for estimated growth. Upgrading water meters (replacements with real-time and electronic monitoring).
- Steve Tharinger said that the DRMT is very interested in the water supply issue, and invited Paul H. to come back to speak about it.
- Pete Schroeder asked if there are plans to recharge Bell Creek. It is charged at Carrie Blake 1/10th of a cfs.
- Judy asked how eel grass has been affected by expansion. Battelle use to file reports; they had been hired by the City to monitor the health of the eel grass. Pete Tjemsland said Battelle was monitoring the outfalls for ph, salinity and total coloforms.
- Shawn alerted members about the shuttle, and the field trip began.

V. Field Trip – see accompanying PowerPoint Presentation of the DRMT October 13th Field Trip

- Stop 1: Pitship Point Barrier Removal Project
- Stop 2: Washington Harbor Restoration Project
- Stop 3: Sequim Water Reclamation Facility/Expansion Project

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

Handouts:

- Today's agenda with map of field trip sites on back.
- From Hannah Merrill: "Clallam County Shoreline Plans, Reports, Articles, etc." and listing of "Clallam County Shores of the State Restoration Work".
- City of Sequim brochure, "Water Reclamation Facility: Providing Class A Reclaimed Water for the City of Sequim".

DRMT
October 13th 2010
Field Trip

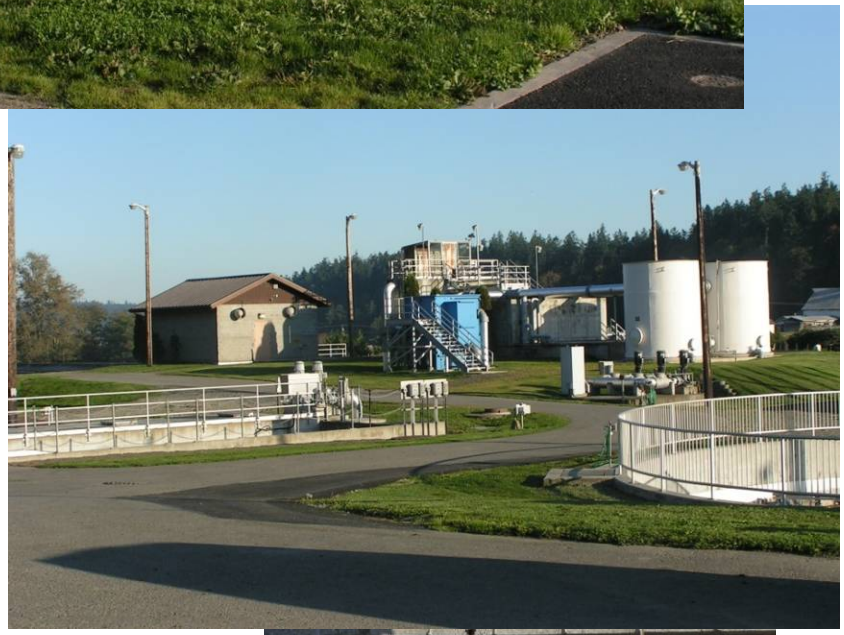
- Stop 1: Pitship Point Barrier Removal Project
- Stop 2: Washington Harbor Restoration Project
- Stop 3: Sequim Water Reclamation Facility/Expansion Project

Stop 1: Pitship Point Barrier Removal Project

- The road is on the bridge which replaced the culvert.

Stop 2: Washington Harbor Restoration Project

•Approximately 37 acres of habitat.
•The causeway was created in the mid-1960's.
•For the restoration plan more of the road will be removed, this will restore the tidal hydrology, and habitat connectivity.
•Crucial habitat for salmon.



Stop 3: Sequim Water Reclamation Facility/Expansion Project

The plant's lead operator, Al Chrisman, gave a verbal tour and answered questions.

- The new water reclamation facility project doubled capacity and converted the plant from an oxidation ditch to a conventional activated sludge plant with PLC-based control for enhanced nitrogen removal.
- New secondary clarifier.
- Additional filtration capacity (disk filter uses cloth canvas instead of sand) .
- New UV disinfection system.
- Additional reliability, redundancy and PLC control.

This is a moveable display that explains the treatment cycles and can be used at community events and at schools.