



Dungeness River Management Team
Cooperative Management of Our Watershed's Resources
Coordinated by Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and Clallam County
1033 Old Blyn Highway • Sequim, WA 98382 • (360) 683-1109

March 16, 2018

Governor Jay Inslee
Office of the Governor
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

RE: Support for Dungeness Off-Channel Reservoir Project

Dear Governor Inslee:

At its monthly meeting this week, the Dungeness River Management Team (DRMT) voted unanimously to send a letter of support for funding toward land acquisition for the Dungeness Off-Channel Reservoir project, an item in the Supplemental Capital Budget passed by the Legislature last week.

The DRMT, a long-standing partnership of watershed stakeholders and individuals, is turning 30 this year and has a strong history of supporting and coordinating water conservation efforts in the watershed. Water supply and storage, along with instream flows and habitat restoration, have been key activity since the Dungeness-Quilcene pilot project in the early 1990s and the watershed planning process in the early 2000s. In fact, the 2005 Ecology-approved WRIA 18 water resource management plan recommends an off-channel reservoir for storage of Dungeness River water, which would increase our area's resiliency against decreasing snowpack storage due to climate change and critical low flows in the Dungeness.

As you know, the Dungeness is an important system to the tribes of the North Olympic Peninsula, for its salmon and other natural resources from forests to the nearshore. The River also directly feeds drinking water aquifers for a growing population and, of course, the agricultural industry and associated tourism.

The project has been on the Salmon Recovery Funding Board's list since a stakeholder group formed three years ago to pursue the project on public land south of Sequim. A preliminary concept plan is complete and grant applications are currently pending for land acquisition by Clallam County and final design engineering.

Stakeholders, all of whom are also long-standing DRMT members, are willing, ready, and waiting to proceed with this project benefiting fish, farms, and people. We appreciate your serious consideration of funding this important project.

Sincerely,

Hansi Hals, Chair, DRMT
On behalf of the DRMT

2018 DRMT Membership

<i>Clallam Conservation District</i>	<i>Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe</i>
<i>Clallam County</i>	<i>North Olympic Land Trust</i>
<i>Clallam PUD #1</i>	<i>Protect the Peninsula's Future</i>
<i>City of Sequim</i>	<i>Riverside Property Owners</i>
<i>Dungeness Beach Association</i>	<i>Water Users Association</i>
<i>Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge</i>	<i>Sports Fisheries</i>
<i>Dungeness River Audubon Center</i>	<i>US Forest Service</i>
<i>Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society</i>	<i>WA Department of Ecology</i>